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SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 25

Sushi fare that's square

Rolling skills on the rough side? These straight-edged sushi are a simple-to-make but elegant appetizer PAGE 29

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Quick-thinking boy saves grandpa's life with 911 call

Emergency response. 7-year-old helps guide police to the scene

A seven-year-old Chilliwack boy is being hailed a hero after making a crucial 911 call that saved his grandfather's life.

Evan Raap and his grandfather George Epp were on their way to a bank Saturday at 9:30 a.m when the elderly man pulled over when he became ill.

"I thought he was joking at first," Evan told Metro Wednesday. "He was shaking and sweating."

The young boy found his grandfather's cellphone and called 911.

"He's just staring there with his eyes open," he told the dispatcher. "I'm really worried."

During the 13-minute 911 call released by the RCMP, a tearful Evan described how his grandfather was slumped over in the front seat of the minivan breathing but not talking.

The boy eventually calmed down, telling the dispatcher that their minivan was near Ashwell Road and Deans Avenue to help guide a police officer there before ambulance arrived.

Evan also became emotional when he told the dispatcher that he had a soccer game later that day.

His dad Brian said that what happened shows the importance of teaching kids how to call 911 and use cellphones — they taught Evan about 911 and what to do in case of an emergency when he was five.

"I don't think there are any words that could say how proud we are of him," he said, adding Grandpa George is still in hospital but doing much better.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

A SHOT AT GLORY

The Vancouver Whitecaps take on David Beckham and the defending champion L.A. Galaxy Thursday in this first ever MLS playoff match. See preview on page 34. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Transit plan good to go

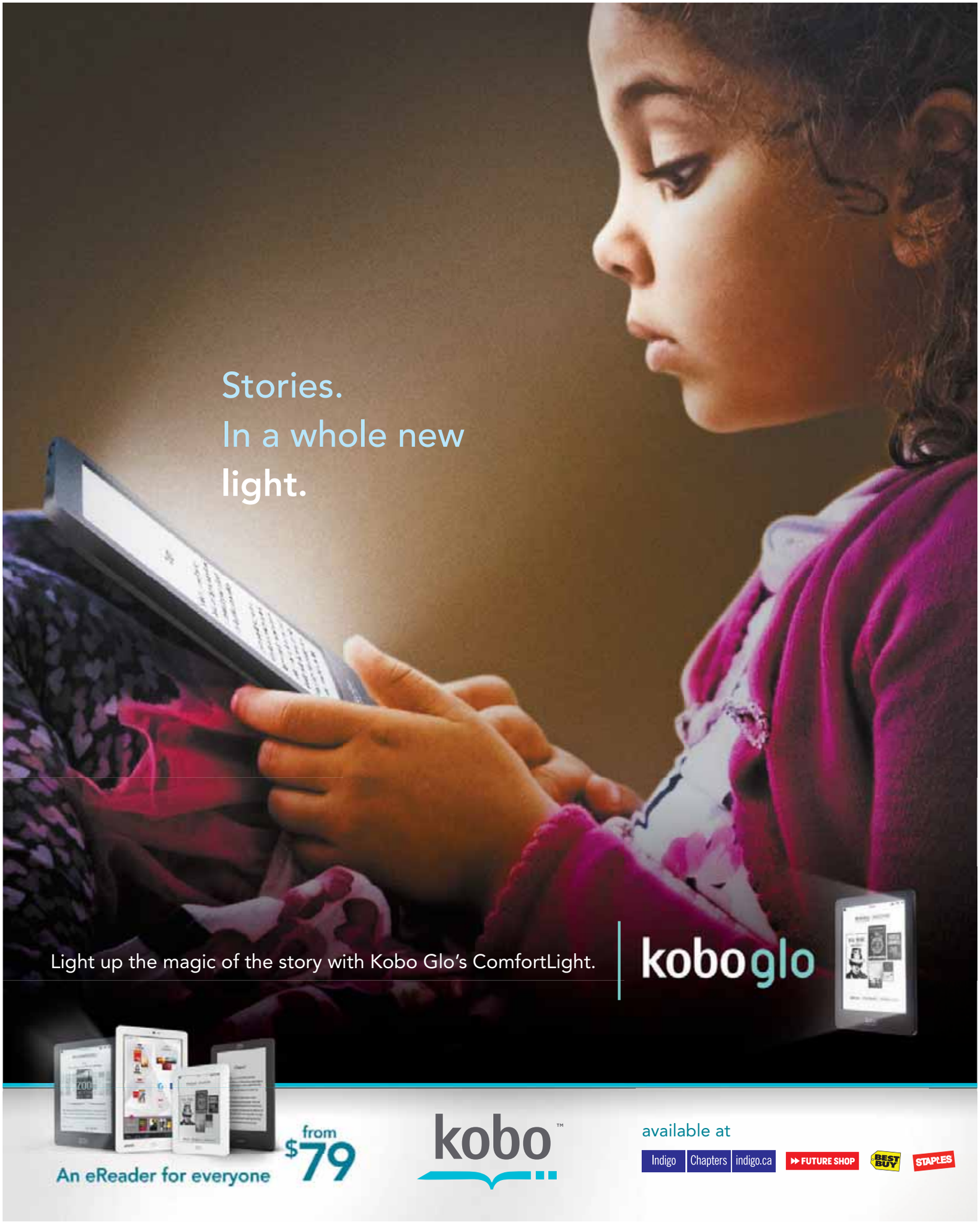
Vancouver approves 2040 scheme that envisions $3-billion rapid-transit line down Broadway corridor PAGE 4

Powering up at Starbucks

Not only can you charge up at the popular coffee chain, but soon your cellphone can as well — wirelessly PAGE 16

Fly boy Denzel

Oscar winner soars to great heights with his complex role in Flight PAGE 23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Salmon probe report skewers Ottawa

Fraser River sockeye salmon. Justice says changes to Fisheries Act were rushed, set 'lower standard' for protecting salmon

A sockeye salmon is reeled in by a fisherman along the shores of the Fraser River. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

To no avail ...

"That's something our nation has been advancing and trying to have addressed and accommodated for decades ..."

Chief Bob Chamberlin, with the Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation in the Broughton Archipelago

Commissioner Bruce Cohen is escorted by sheriff officers as he arrives to address the media regarding the findings of the Cohen Commission on declining salmon on the Fraser River in Vancouver Wednesday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A sitting judge spent three years and $26 million looking for answers around the collapse of a Fraser River sockeye salmon run, but before the conclusions were available the federal government made changes that would make the prized fishery even more vulnerable, B.C. Supreme Court Justice Bruce Cohen said.

It is "regrettable" that the government did not wait to see the conclusions of the inquiry before making changes to the federal Fisheries Act, Cohen told the media Wednesday.

"The amendments to the Fisheries Act cause me concern," Cohen said in a comprehensive 1,000-page report containing 75 recommendations.

"I find it difficult to avoid the conclusion that the legislative amendments in Bill C-38 lower the standard of protection for Fraser River sockeye salmon."

Cohen notes in his report that the legislative changes were tabled five months after hearings ended, as he was writing his draft report.

Contrary to his recommendations to protect salmon habitat, Cohen said the amendments contained in the Conservatives' omnibus budget legislation appear to expand the circumstances where fish habitat can be harmed.

"DFO's first priority must be the health of wild stocks," Cohen said repeatedly during a news conference.

Cohen received more than three million pages of documents, sat through more than 100 days of evidence and listened to almost 900 public submissions.

In the end, he said there was no "smoking gun" to explain the decades-long decline of sockeye, but he pointed to a number of factors both in the immediate habitat of the Fraser River run and in the region.

Contributing factors in the decline include contamination and development along the river and conditions faced by juvenile salmon at sea.

But Cohen said the most troubling factor impacting the fish was climate change, and noted a two-degree increase in water temperatures in the Fraser River over the past 60 years.

Millions of sockeye salmon vanished from the Fraser run. Just 1.4 million sockeye showed up in a run that was anticipated to be around 10 million. The following year, the Fraser River run defied all expectations, coming in at an astounding 30 million.

Among the recommendations, Cohen called for a freeze on the controversial practice of net-pen salmon farming around the Discovery Islands, on B.C.'s central coast, saying salmon farms have the potential to introduce disease to wild salmon. Scientists do not know enough about the risks of salmon farms on wild stocks, he said.

Cohen also cited a conflict within Fisheries and Oceans Canada between conservation of wild stocks and promotion of the aquaculture industry, and he recommended industry promotion be transferred to another department.

The government did not commit to implementing any of the recommendations, and Kamp defended the Fisheries Act changes.

"What we think the amendments to the Fisheries Act ... did is allow us to focus on the protection of the fisheries that Canadians value — commercial, recreational and aboriginal fisheries."

He said "serious harm" is prohibited against those fisheries.

Gwen Barlee, policy director with the Wilderness Committee, disagreed.

"You have to wonder, when Justice Cohen is going in one direction calling for better protection of salmon, better science, better habitat protection, the federal government is going in the opposite direction," she said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vancouver's transportation system will look radically different by 2040 after the city approved a new transit plan Wednesday. SUZANNE MA/METRO FILE

City council green lights 'ambitious' transit plan

Rapid transit line.
Despite unanimous support for $3B project along Broadway corridor, no funding is yet in place

EMILY JACKSON
emily.jackson@metronews.ca

Vancouverites are one step closer to rapid transit along the Broadway corridor.

There is no funding in place for the estimated $3-billion underground line to UBC, but it's the cornerstone of the Transportation 2040 plan that city council passed unanimously Wednesday.

"Transit is absolutely crucial to us meeting our goals and targets," said director of transportation Jerry Dobrovolny, especially along the corridor with "urgent" capacity needs. "There is no Plan B."

The plan, which aims for two-thirds of trips within the city to be taken by foot, bike or transit by 2040, is "ambitious, but it's realistic," Mayor Gregor Robertson said.

The plan also focuses on safety and accessibility at an unprecedented level.

Greener travel modes currently account for less than half of trips, but more people might choose them if the city delivers improved bike-lane connectivity and pedestrian plazas, Dobrovolny said.

Since transit and walking are the easiest alternatives to driving, the plan needs to boost transit capacity if it wants to get people out of cars, Dobrovolny said. Expanding roads isn't a practical option as the population is expected to expand.

Now the city just needs to figure out how to fund its plan. The report recommends exploring the option of funds from developers, a suggestion which Coun. Adriane Carr called "dangerous." She was the only councillor to oppose this section of the report.

The city depends on Translink for cash for major transit improvements.

While the provincial body "respects the city's preference" to build rapid transit on Broadway, that money isn't coming any time soon, said Bob Paddon, Translink's executive vice-president of strategic planning.

"We agree that Broadway ultimately needs investment," he said, but "any future investment is going to require new money or some way to pay for it."

In the interim, it will look to improve service along Broadway without buying more buses, he added.

Airport. Chief retires after 20 years at helm

The man in charge of running Vancouver's airport is retiring after 20 years.

Larry Berg announced his retirement Wednesday, though he will stay on into early next year while a successor is chosen following an international search.

Berg has been with the airport authority since it took control of the facility from Transport Canada in 1992.

The airport was an early adopter of the so-called airport-improvement fee, a model eventually followed by airports across the country.

Passengers grumbled about the fee, but Vancouver's airport went on to diversify the services it offers — from well-known food outlets to shops and a notable collection of West Coast aboriginal art.

The airport has won numerous international awards, and the authority eventually created a subsidiary that provides airport management at 12 airports in five countries based on the Vancouver authority model.

The Vancouver airport is Canada's second busiest, after Toronto's airport, and served 17 million passengers in 2011 through 63 airlines.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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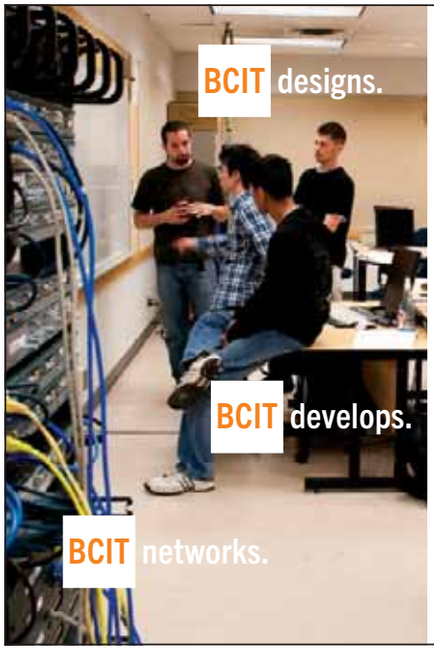

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B.C. reveals MLAs' $1.5-million travel bill on taxpayers' dime

Expenses. Two NDP MLAs are in the top three of the province's biggest spenders

EMILY JACKSON
vancouver@metronews.ca

B.C. MLAs gave the public a glimpse at their travel expenses for the first time Wednesday.

The 85 representatives spent $1.55 million on travel on the taxpayers' dime between April 1 and Sept. 30 this year.

But that doesn't include what ministers spend on travel each month, as each ministry reports those amounts separately.

The release comes after a scathing report by auditor-general John Doyle this summer. He dubbed the legislature's finances "messy" and "well short of the basic financial management practices," and called for the public release of financial statements.

With a bill of $53,606, Robin Austin, the NDP MLA for Skeena, spent the most in the six-month period. Liberal Bill Barisoff, the speaker of the house, followed with $46,410 and NDP Norm MacDonald spent the third most at $45,332.

Austin's bill, however, includes a $19,486 trip to accompany Barisoff to a commonwealth parliamentary conference in Sri Lanka, he said.

Austin was chosen for the annual trip — a one-time, speaker-approved cost — because his parents were born there, he said.

It's important to release these expenses, he said, because people want to know where their money is going.

"What you see today is just the beginning of making our government more transparent," he said.

Of the top 10 spenders, six are from coastal or remote regions that make travel more costly. Austin represents the remote areas of Kitimat and Terrace. Barisoff represents Penticton and MacDonald the Columbia River/Revelstoke.

B.C. NDP Leader Adrian Dix spent $32,997 to earn himself a spot in the top 10.

Premier Christy Clark only claimed $2,730 as an MLA, but her travel expenses from were $33,655.67 from April to August.

'Aaargh, hand over the treasure, matey ... and by treasure I mean candy'

A boy dressed in a pirate costume wants to get his hands on some sweets Wednesday during the B.C. Children's Hospital's annual trick-or-treat parade. More than 200 patients, their families and hospital staff were decked out in costumes to get into the Halloween spirit. Diane Hart, director of the hospital's child life department, said the parade has been a 25-year-old tradition and lets the young patients experience trick-or-treating, something they would be doing if they were at home. PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Disaster relief. Fire services turn to volunteers

Vancouver's fire and rescue services are rolling out disaster-relief training in early 2013 that would teach a corps of citizen volunteers how to assist others in the event of the Big One.

Graduates of the 18-hour Neighbourhood Emergency Assistance Team (NEAT) program will learn how to provide disaster first aid, use fire extinguishers and portable hydrants, learn the city's Dedicated Fire Protection System, have basic communication and radio skills, and understand the Incident Command System.

The program, which will be conducted at fire halls and community centres, will be taught by professional firefighters.

"What we're trying to do is raise awareness and training for citizens who are going to be possibly left alone for one or two days until things can get organized," said Capt. Ron Ewert, with the Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services' disaster and emergency planning division.

First responders may be overwhelmed during emergencies, he added, and civilian volunteers can help ease that burden.

Ewert said that their reviews of several major disasters such as last year's earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand, and the 2003 Kelowna forest fire prove that once citizens ensure the safety of their families, they start helping others.

But that could be risky, Ewert said.

"After the earthquake in Mexico, citizen volunteers were credited with upwards of 800 rescues, but unfortunately more than 100 of those untrained citizen volunteers died in the rescue efforts. (We) don't want that to happen," he said. "I believe the more educated somebody can be about different situations, the outcome is going to be better in the long run."

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

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Beating the odds through fitness

Following her passion. Young refugee struggled with weight, self-esteem before taking control of her destiny

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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From refugee camp to centre stage, Marrianne Mino has come out on top in her battle with weight and cultural oppression.

The 24-year-old Coquitlam resident was born in a refugee camp in Iraq. When she was only two months old, her family emigrated to Canada.

Growing up, Mino saw her family struggle with finances, her parents separate and her mom endure difficult situations just to provide for her and her younger brother.

Mino had low self-esteem and struggled with her weight. At her heaviest, she weighed 200 pounds.

"People always made me feel that my weight was wrong for me," Mino said. "I wasn't a good enough person because of my weight."

This year, she decided to take control of her life. Inspired by her 40-year-old mother, an exercise buff who has placed in the top five at two international bodybuilding and fitness competitions, Mino started training.

"When I saw her on stage, I saw something shine from within her and I saw how happy it made her," she said.

Mino is now preparing for her first fitness competition at the Sandra Wickham Fall Classic on Nov. 10 in New Westminster.

"I can't wait to shine on stage myself the same way my mom did," she said, adding her mother, brother and stepfather will be cheering her on. "I want to know that I have an option, because, let's face it, you can't stand on a stage in a bikini back home in Iraq."

At 140 pounds, Mino says she has never felt so good about herself and her body.

"I used to be so worried about numbers or what was on the scale," she said. "I've learned to love myself."

She hopes to inspire others to gain the confidence to follow their passion.

"Anything you put your heart and mind to, if you find the passion for it … anything is possible," she said.

Coquitlam resident Marrianne Mino, who was born in a refugee camp in Iraq and struggled with her weight while growing up, is taking part in her first fitness competition this month in New Westminster. CONTRIBUTED/LARRY NIVEN

Don't make serial killers roomies, coroner's jury advises

Prisons across the country should consider housing multiple murderers in their own cells and allow dangerous offenders to jump the queue for their own sleeping quarters, a coroner's jury in B.C. recommended after examining the death of an inmate who was killed by his serial-killer cellmate.

Jeremy Phillips, 33, was murdered by Michael Wayne McGray in November 2010. A coroner's inquest ended this week with jurors making a series of recommendations aimed at improving prison safety to prevent similar incidents.

Phillips and McGray were housed together at the Mountain Institute medium-security prison in Agassiz, B.C., after McGray was transferred there from a maximum-security facility. McGray, who pleaded guilty to first-degree murder in Phillips' death, was previously convicted of six murders and once claimed to have killed 16 people in Canada and the U.S.

The inquest heard testimony from another inmate who said Phillips was worried about his cellmate, though prison officials insisted a thorough assessment determined it was safe to put the pair together.

Guards didn't notice Phillips was dead until McGray told them. A guard told the inquest it was difficult to see into the cell window with his flashlight.

The coroner's jury recommended that multiple murderers be kept in single accommodations, unless there is evidence that shows it is both "safe and practical" to put such inmates in shared spaces.

The jury recommended wardens be allowed to disregard wait lists for single cells to ensure dangerous offenders are moved to their own cells.

The jury said prison staff should be told "all information" about inmates before transfers are approved, and said a series of recommendations from the Mountain Institute's own internal investigation into Phillips' death should be implemented across the country.

Jurors also recommended the Correctional Service of Canada look into technology to monitor inmates' body heat and review its policy regarding flashlight intensity.

Less than 24 hours after Phillips' murder, McGray, then 45, confessed to police, admitting that he tied up Phillips using strips of bed sheets, shoved a thick sock down his throat and strangled him for five minutes.

Both the Correctional Service of Canada and the federal public safety ministry issued statements Wednesday that said corrections officials were reviewing the recommendations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Labour action

SFU staff staging one-day walkout

Support workers at Simon Fraser University plan a one-day strike on Thursday at the Burnaby campus to press their contract demands.

The 1,000 CUPE members haven't had a contract since 2010. The walkout comes after CUPE reached deals for support staff at UBC and three other universities.

Meanwhile, the city of Vancouver has reached a four-year agreement with 6,000 employees represented by CUPE.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lumber industry

Canfor reopens Radium mill

Canfor Corp. has reopened its sawmill in Radium Hot Springs, B.C., after a $38.5-million upgrade.

The company says once the mill is operating at full capacity next year it will produce 240 million board feet annually and employ 144 people.

Canfor is one of Canada's biggest lumber producers.

The reopening comes as the U.S. housing sector, a key market for Canadian lumber, appears to be recovering.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Immunization

Flu vaccinations back on track

Health Canada has given the all-clear to use Novartis influenza vaccine, meaning B.C. can resume its flu-immunization program.

Use of the Novartis vaccine was suspended briefly across Canada because of concerns about one unreleased batch of the shots, but all other batches meet quality controls and the suspension was lifted this morning.

Novartis products represent about 30 per cent of B.C.'s vaccine supply.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Killed by police

Shooting victim identified

A 54-year-old man has been identified as the person shot and killed by a Vancouver police officer on Monday.

The B.C. Coroner's Service says Christopher Lewis Ray had been living in Vancouver at the time of his death. He was shot after an officer investigating reports of smashed windows encountered a man armed with a knife.

The Independent Investigations Office is looking into the shooting, and says its members have recovered a knife.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

No injuries

Heavy rain brings two mudslides in Langley

Two mudslides have occurred in Langley after two days of heavy rain.

The first slide engulfed part of a home, but there are no reports of injuries.

The slide forced the RCMP to shut down 264th Street between 72nd and 84th avenues, while the second slide was reported at 252nd Street and 72nd Avenue.

Cleanup won't begin until a geotechnical team completes an assessment of the slides.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conan the K-9

Police dog lives up to his name

A 19-year-old Victoria man has learned it's not a good idea to tangle with a police dog named Conan.

The man fled during a traffic stop Monday night after an officer noticed he was breaching a court-ordered curfew. He ran into some woods and then into the Gorge waterway, where Conan was sent in to help catch him.

Two police officers also waded in as the suspect fought back, but he was eventually wrestled to shore — suffering a dog bite.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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‘Ow, it hurts’ — shocking vids seen at teen’s inquest

Caution: Graphic content. Hooded Ashley Smith had her hands duct-taped to an airplane seat by prison guards

Ashley Smith is shown in this still image taken from a coroner’s video. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

The haunting protests of a now-dead teenager filled a Toronto coroner’s courtroom Wednesday.

Surveillance videos were screened showing the troubled inmate repeatedly tranquilized against her will or being threatened with having her face duct-taped.

The disturbing images of Ashley Smith — images finally released after a two-year fight — showed the 19-year-old at several points in the run-up to her October 2007 choking death in a prison cell in Kitchener, Ont.

“Ow, it hurts,” a hooded Smith yells at one point as prison guards duct-tape her reddened hands to an airplane seat.

“Trust me: I am calm,” she says in a thin voice at another point, as guards threaten her.

The airplane video, from April 2007, shows Smith’s transfer from a Saskatoon prison, where she had an altercation with a guard who was charged, then acquitted, of assaulting her.

Although she doesn’t appear to be putting up much resistance and she’s wearing two “spit hoods” over her face, the guards duct-tape her hands to the arm rests.

The pilot then weighs in.

“Don’t bite me,” he says.

“I’m not,” Smith responds.

“It’ll get worse if you do.”

“How can it get worse?”

“I’ll duct-tape your face.”

Correctional Service Canada is fighting to narrow the scope of the inquest into her death, arguing the coroner has no jurisdiction to delve into the federal prison system.

“Don’t let them get away with it,” Julian Falconer, Smith’s family lawyer, told presiding coroner Dr. John Carlisle. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Guards watched

Ashley Smith, 19, died Oct. 19, 2007, inside a segregation cell at the Grand Valley Institution for Women in Kitchener, Ont.

- She choked herself to death with a strip of cloth while guards, instructed not to intervene, watched.

Grief. Hydro mourns one of its own, a storm victim

A hydro worker was killed Wednesday in southwestern Ontario while working on a power line damaged by Superstorm Sandy.

The worker, whose name was not released, was electrocuted while tending to a downed power line in Sarnia, said the labour ministry.

Bluewater Power CEO Janice McMichael Dennis said the death was an “unbelievable” surprise.

“As you can imagine, his family is grieving and we are grieving here as his family,” she said.

“It is an unspeakable tragedy.”

Provincial Energy Minister Chris Bentley took to Twitter to extend his condolences to the worker’s family.

“Thoughts and prayers with family of Hydro worker killed in Sarnia,” Bentley wrote.

It was the second known death in Canada related to Sandy. A Toronto woman was killed by a falling sign on Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vacationers. Tourists can finally get off Facebook and see a bit of the city

Museums, the Empire State Building, Broadway theatres and many stores reopened Wednesday to the relief of tourists who'd been stuck in hotel rooms since the weekend due to Superstorm Sandy. But parks, the 9-11 Memorial, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and other top attractions remained shuttered.

"We tried to go to Central Park but it was closed," said Angela Walsh, who travelled from Lincoln, England, with her husband and two kids, as they took pictures at Rockefeller Center Wednesday morning, where the rink was opening for skating. She said they'd spent much of the last two days in their hotel room. "Thank God for Facebook," she added. "That kept them entertained." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bright side

"We are pleased because we are alive."

Tourist Martine Juillard of Paris, waiting with her daughters for the Abercrombie & Fitch store to open on Fifth Avenue

Commuters cross New York's Brooklyn Bridge Wednesday. Rush-hour traffic appeared heavier than on an ordinary day. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

N.Y.C. Marathon

Disaster will be backdrop to run

The New York City Marathon is a go for Sunday. While logistical questions persist, one thing is certain: The 42-kilometre route will have a disaster for a backdrop. And a debate: Some say it pulls resources and focus away from people in need.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alert over

Danger cools at N.J. nuclear plant

A nuclear power plant in New Jersey is no longer under an alert caused by Superstorm Sandy. The alert at Oyster Creek plant in Forked River was triggered as water rose outside the plant, threatening cooling equipment. It ended early Wednesday.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Storm victims in need of shelter and comfort

New problems arise. Blazes rekindled by natural-gas leaks destroy dozens of homes in N.J.

People along the battered U.S. East Coast took the first cautious steps to reclaim their daily routines Wednesday, even as the search for victims continued. Superstorm Sandy's death toll rose to at least 63.

The New York Stock Exchange came back to life, and two major New York airports reopened to begin the long process of moving stranded travellers around the world.

U.S. President Barack Obama landed in New Jersey, which was hardest hit by Monday's hurricane-driven storm, and he took a helicopter tour of the devastation with Gov. Chris Christie. "We're going to be here for the long haul," Obama told people at one emergency shelter.

For the first time since the storm pummelled the heavily populated U.S. northeast, doing billions of dollars in damage, brilliant sunshine washed over New York City, for a while.

At the stock exchange, running on generator power, Mayor Michael Bloomberg gave a thumbs-up and rang the opening bell to whoops from traders. Limited service on the subway will resume Thursday.

It was clear that restoring the region to its ordinarily frenetic pace could take days — and that rebuilding the hardest-hit communities and the transportation networks could take considerably longer.

About six million homes and businesses were still without power. In New Jersey, National Guard troops arrived in the heavily flooded city of Hoboken to help evacuate about 20,000 people still stuck in their homes and deliver ready-to-eat meals. Live wires dangled in floodwaters that Mayor Dawn Zimmer said were rapidly mixing with sewage.

Tempers flared. A man screamed at emergency officials in Hoboken about why food and water had not been delivered to residents just a few blocks away. The man, who would not give his name, said he blew up an air mattress to float over to a staging area.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. President Barack Obama embraces Donna Vanzant during a tour Wednesday of a neighbourhood affected by Superstorm Sandy in Brigantine, N.J. Vanzant is an owner of North Point Marina, which was damaged by the storm. PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Unlikely bromance

U.S. President Barack Obama joined one of his top Republican critics to visit storm victims in New Jersey, giving Americans a high-profile display of presidential leadership.

- Gov. Chris Christie has been one of Mitt Romney's most prominent supporters, but he has been effusive in his praise of Obama's response to the storm.

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Hall Beach in Nunavut grew because of a radar station built there in 1957. Four men who moved graves from the community by dogsled more than 40 years ago are still waiting to be paid. Neither the federal government nor the government of Nunavut will claim responsibility. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Haunting, dirty job in Nunavut still unpaid for

Hall Beach. Hunters who relocated graves 44 years ago never received compensation

More than 40 years ago, four hunters in Canada's northern reaches had the haunting task of relocating 20 graves from the centre of the hamlet of Hall Beach to its outskirts.

Using dog sleds, it took the men days to move the bones and partially decomposed bodies, but they were never paid.

And now, 44 years later, their compensation is still a matter of vigorous debate with absolutely no resolution. Ottawa says it's not responsible and Nunavut politicians say the new territory wasn't even around then, so forget it.

"They were promised compensation for doing the work (by the then-federal settlement manager) ... but they never did get paid," Louis Tapardjuk, the MLA for the area, told the Torstar News Service.

Hall Beach, which has about 600 people, is at the northeastern tip of Melville Peninsula at the shores of Foxe Basin, a narrow strait across from Baffin Island.

Only one of the hunters is still alive and he is said to be dying of cancer. He and the families of the other three are reported to be looking for $5,000 each.

Tapardjuk raised the matter in the Nunavut legislature as recently as this week, urging the Department of Health and Social Services' Keith Peterson to do the right thing, but he offered only sympathy for the hunters' families.

"The government of Nunavut wasn't even in existence until 1999," Peterson said, adding the matter only landed on his desk last year.

"The government of Canada clearly indicates in their correspondence that they have no record of this event ever occurring. It's very puzzling. I know the community says it did happen. The federal government, to whom they have been corresponding with, said that it didn't happen and the statute of limitations has run out."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Quoted

"The government of Canada clearly indicates in their correspondence that they have no record of this event ever occurring. It's very puzzling."

Keith Peterson, Nunavut Department of Health and Social Services

Birds fly past the Hall Beach cemetery. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Whose responsibility is it?

'They never even got a thank-you letter'

The graves were originally located right in the centre of the hamlet, and Tapardjuk said it was a federally appointed settlement manager who ordered them moved, which the federal government now denies ever happened.

"Can you imagine all the emotional stress that came along having to deal with bloody graves and the men's clothing smelling like death? Apparently it was a horrible smell. The sleds even had to be destroyed after that. Through all that they never even got a thank-you letter or anything," Tapardjuk said.

He added it is "extremely frustrating" to keep raising the matter of compensation and have nothing happen.

Peterson countered: "With respect to financial compensation, that's very difficult for me to answer. We have no idea what the costs are and who acknowledges responsibility. What I'm prepared to do is offer the individuals and the community of Hall Beach counselling and support to these individuals affected and help them with their grieving and healing process."

Tapardjuk said the compensation would go a long way for the families "for equipment to go hunting ... but instead they get nothing in return."

Hunting and fishing are the main occupations in Hall Beach, one of the oldest communities north of the Arctic Circle.

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Harper defends his China agreement

FIPA. The prime minister says it will level the playing field for Canadian firms

Prime Minister Stephen Harper defended the investment-protection agreement he signed with Beijing, saying it will even the playing field for Canadian companies wanting to invest in China.

"For almost two decades, Canadian governments have been trying to get a foreign-investment protection and promotion agreement with China for one very simple reason: Canadian investors have not had the kind of protection in China that Chinese investors have in Canada," Harper said during the daily Commons question period.

"This agreement allows us to move forward. That is why it has seen an almost entirely positive response from Canadian investors. They want to see this go forward and we are committed to giving them the kind of protection they need."

The prime minister was fielding questions on the Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA) he arranged with China.

Opposition MPs say parliamentarians should be given more time to vet the agreement, which is designed to be unbreakable for at least 15 years, with a further 15 years during which either country can back out on one year's notice. The opposition argues the agreement will give Chinese companies, including state-owned firms, undue power to sue Canadian governments at any level.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP quoted

"They are trying to tie the hands of Canadians for 31 years with no study, no debate and no consultation."

NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair, who urged Harper to provide MPs a chance to scrutinize the agreement before it comes into force

Prime Minister Stephen Harper during question period Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Indira Gandhi remembered

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh offers floral respects at the memorial of former prime minister Indira Gandhi on her death anniversary in New Delhi, India, Wednesday. Gandhi was gunned down by her trusted Sikh bodyguards in 1984. Singh is the first Sikh to hold the prime ministership. MUSTAFA QURAISHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Enough politics!

Sobs of girl, 4, over too-long election go viral

The oh-so-long U.S. presidential campaign has made at least one young girl cry. In a video released Wednesday that has gone viral online, four-year-old Abby Evans is seen frowning, tears rolling down her cheeks.

Her mother, Elizabeth Evans, asks why she is crying. Abby replies: "Because I'm tired of Bronco Obama and Mitt Romney." Her mother then says the election will be over soon. "Yay," Abby says through sobs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Africa

Blacks face deep poverty: Census

White South Africans earn six times more than black South Africans fully two decades after the end of apartheid, and much remains to be done to reduce the disparities between rich and poor, the South African president said on release of the new 2011 census.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Flu vaccine gets all-clear: Was hold a little too hasty?

Flu season. Canada says Novartis is safe to use, while Italy, which sparked worldwide fears, is now reviewing its decision to ban it

It's flu-shot season — and the Novartis vaccine has gotten the green light.
JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Health Canada lifted its hold on Novartis flu vaccines on Wednesday.

It said a review of the products reassured the department the vaccines are safe to use.

Switzerland, which also suspended use of the vaccines last week, followed suit.

And it was reported that even Italy, which was the first in a chain of countries to halt use of the Novartis vaccines, is now reviewing its decision, too.

In fact, a senior Health Canada official admitted the agency might never have put a hold on the products if it had been in possession of details last week about why its Italian counterpart had blocked delivery of Novartis vaccines in that country.

Health Canada was finally able to get those details from Italy on Tuesday and also used other sources of information on the products, sold in Canada under the names Fluad and Agriflu.

It turned out that Italy had taken the action solely based on a report from Novartis that it had found an imperfect batch of vaccine made at its Siena, Italy, plant. Other batches were apparently OK.

The Novartis vaccines make up a total of 20 per cent of Canada's combined flu-vaccine purchase this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Don't blame Sandy

It's cleanup time in Toronto — and you can't put all the blame on Superstorm Sandy. While its torrential rains were causing havoc, a fierce fire broke out on the city's fashionable Queen Street West. A commercial building that housed apartments and a Roots store was destroyed. The cause is unknown. RENÉ JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Storm aftermath

Toronto offers N.Y.C. transit help

Toronto's transit bosses have offered to help New York get its transit service back on line.

The offer extends "to whatever they need — track, signal, structural, electrical expertise, vehicle engineers," said Toronto Transit Commission spokesperson Brad Ross.

Meanwhile, Toronto council voted to help New York City with its cleanup after Superstorm Sandy.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SPCA on alert

DIY surgery puts dogs at risk

Saskatchewan SPCA officials are worried by reports of people neutering their dogs with do-it-yourself surgery.

SPCA manager Kaley Pugh says she has seen five reports this year of dog owners using elastrator bands to neuter their male dogs, a practice usually found on the farm when castrating bulls.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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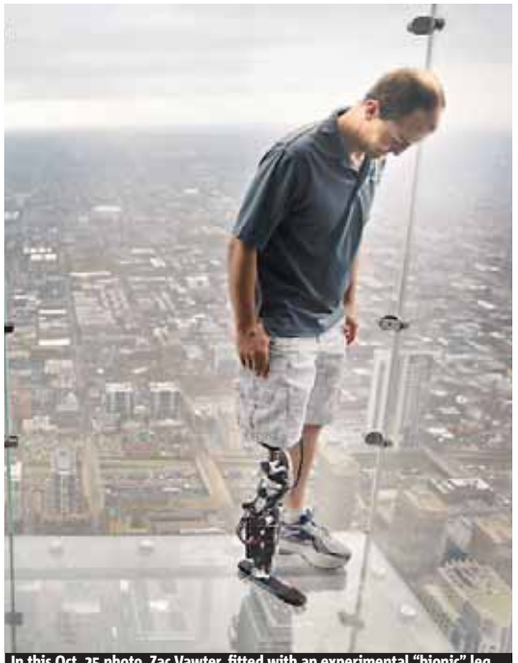
Bionic leg faces gruelling 103-storey proving ground



In this Oct. 25 photo, Zac Vawter, fitted with an experimental "bionic" leg, looks down from the Willis Tower in Chicago. BRIAN KERSEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tech. Amputee will use brain-powered leg to climb one of the world's tallest skyscrapers

Zac Vawter considers himself a test pilot. After losing his right leg in a motorcycle accident, the 31-year-old software engineer signed up to become a research subject, helping to test a trailblazing prosthetic leg that's controlled by his thoughts.

He will put this groundbreaking bionic leg to the ultimate test Sunday when he attempts to climb 103 flights of stairs to the top of Chicago's Willis Tower, one of the world's tallest skyscrapers.

If all goes well, he'll make history with the bionic leg's public debut. His whirring, robotic leg will respond to electrical impulses from muscles in his hamstring. Vawter will think, "Climb stairs," and the motors, belts and chains in his leg will synchronize the movements of its ankle and knee. Vawter hopes to make it to the top in an hour, longer than it would've taken before his amputation and less time than it would take with his normal prosthetic leg — or, as he calls it, his "dumb" leg.

A team of researchers will be cheering him on and noting the smart leg's performance. When Vawter goes home to Yelm, Wash., where he lives with his wife and two children, the experimental leg will stay behind in Chicago. Researchers will continue to refine its steering. Taking it to the market is still years away.

Bionic arms have been available for a few years. Safety is important: If a bionic hand fails, a person drops a glass of water. If a leg fails, a person falls down stairs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The goal

"Somewhere down the road, it will benefit me and I hope it will benefit a lot of other people as well."

Zac Vawter, about the research at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

Spoils of the hunt

Bear and other animal pelts are sold on Oct. 12 northwest of Moscow. Trophy hunting is gaining ground in Russia among a new wealthy class with cash to burn. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO JR./THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dirty laundry

Belgian royals irate over exposé

The Belgian royal palace has lodged a complaint over a book describing alleged dalliances and private family information about leading members of the monarchy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nocturnal state

'Lights out,' say Egyptian leaders

The Egyptian government is facing backlash for planned laws closing stores and restaurants early. Officials say the goal is social responsibility and conservation of energy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Graphic Guns N' Roses ad stirs up controversy

Sin City. Promotional campaign lands Las Vegas city officials in hot water with victims of domestic abuse

A county commissioner in Las Vegas says she regrets the board temporarily renamed a street in honour of Guns N' Roses after finding out about the band's suggestive publicity artwork.

Advertisements promoting the band's four-week run at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino depict a dishevelled woman who appears to be sexually assaulted beneath the iconic "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign.

"I hadn't seen the advertising before the media event," Commissioner Mary Beth Scow told the Las Vegas Sun. "It's clearly inappropriate. Maybe it's the risk of doing business with a rock band, but I guess we'll have some remorse over this decision. It's a lesson learned."

Singer Axl Rose performs at the Hollywood Palladium.
JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES

Scow represented Clark County at a ceremony Monday that renamed Paradise Road to Paradise City Road, after the band's famous 1987 song. Scow said she'd done her due diligence before the renaming, listening to the song beforehand. She said she liked the line in the chorus, "Take me down to the paradise city, where the grass is green and the girls are pretty."

But she later learned about the graphic posters, which are a sanitized version of the much-criticized cover from Guns N' Roses' debut album Appetite for Destruction.

An advocate for domestic-violence victims said the county should rescind the street-name change, and the band and venue should apologize for using the image. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Halloween lobster is one in 50 million

This image released by the New England Aquarium shows a one-pound female lobster, known as a "split," that was caught by a Massachusetts fisherman last week. Officials say such rare Halloween coloration is estimated to occur once in every 50 million lobsters. EMILY BAUERNSEIND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alleged abuse

Wife dies of obesity, husband faces charges

The husband of a 400-pound (180-kilogram) U.S. woman has been charged with abuse after her recent death.

Authorities are accusing Michael Brooks of allowing Yolanda Reese-Brooks to fester in a bed surrounded by her own waste. The 40-year-old woman died of morbid obesity and other injuries last week.

The prosecutor's office says Brooks was his wife's primary caretaker after she sustained a crushed pelvis and ruptured bladder in a 2011 auto wreck.

Brooks is charged with second-degree abuse of a vulnerable adult. Prosecutor Eric Smith says Brooks' conduct was "shameful." Reese-Brooks' four children now are living with a relative.

It's unknown if Brooks has a lawyer. He doesn't have a listed phone number. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Power up. Starbucks starts wireless charging program in U.S. stores

In this July file photo, a cup of Starbucks coffee sits outside a shop in Cambridge, Mass. The chain's Boston-area stores now offer customers wireless charging for their mobile devices. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

If Starbucks has its way, that double espresso might not be the only thing to give you a jolt the next time you visit.

The Seattle-based coffee chain has unveiled a wireless charging pilot program at 17 Boston-area stores. All Starbucks locations have had free Wi-Fi access since 2010.

The company didn't immediately respond to a Torstar News Service request for comment, but in a published report, executive Adam Brotman didn't rule out expansion of the wireless charging program to other Starbucks locations.

"Customers are coming into our stores every day with mobile devices, and putting them down on the table. If they could be charging their device at the same time, then we've connected with that customer and met their need, maybe even before they realized they had a need for wireless charging," Brotman said in the report, from the Boston Globe.

The wireless charging uses inductive chargers supplied by Duracell Powermat. While inductive charging has the advantage of doing away with wires that people can trip over, there are a few disadvantages.

In particular, inductive charging doesn't charge batteries up as quickly as standard plug-based charging. Another issue is that inductive charging can heat your device up in addition to charging it.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Market Minute

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Financial planning

40% of Canadians relying on homes to fund retirement

About four in 10 respondents to a new BMO study say they aren't confident in their ability to save for retirement and the same number are relying on the value of their home to help fund their retirement.

BMO warns that using a home as a nest egg is a risky idea and that personal savings must play a role in retirement planning. The survey, conducted by Harris Decima, polled 1,002 people. THE CANADIAN PRESS

E-commerce . Canucks will buy one-fifth of holiday presents online

This holiday season, about 20 per cent of gift purchases in Canada are expected to be made online.

One in five presents bought via the web sounds like a sizable number, but compare that figure to the shopping habits of web-savvy Americans, Brits and Germans and it's actually tiny.

According to a recent eMarketer report, 90 per cent of Internet users in the U.K. expect to do some of their shopping online this year and half expect to do most of their buying through the web.

E-commerce could be a much, much larger trend in Canada if consumers had more places to shop online, says Rafe Petkovic, Google Canada's head of industry for retail.

The state of online shopping in Canada today is similar to what consumers in the United States, U.K. or Germany experienced in 2006 or 2007, Petkovic adds, with relatively few retailers to choose from, limited inventory selection and inconsistent shipping options.

"They are certainly markets that are very, very far advanced in comparison to some of the most nascent markets, of which I think Canada is one," he says. "That's not to say it's going to take five to six years to get to a state of e-commerce sophistication, because the benefit that Canadian retailers have is they can steal with pride and learn the lessons that have been painfully learned by their peer set in other markets around the globe."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian challenges

- The country's vast geography and lack of population density are daunting to Canadian retailers looking to launch an online shop.
- Those factors make inventory management and the ability to offer inexpensive — or ideally free — shipping more challenging.
- Having a robust, secure e-commerce operation also requires a significant investment, which some companies have been reluctant to make.

Economy declines for first time since February: StatsCan report

One-month setback.
Flaherty cautions against overreacting to figures

A worker assembles a business jet at Bombardier's manufacturing facility in Toronto in May. The Canadian economic expansion came to a surprising halt in August, posting the first decline since February. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Canada's economic expansion came to a surprising halt in August, posting the first decline since February and setting the stage for the worst quarter of economic activity in more than a year.

Real gross domestic product shrank by 0.1 per cent over the month, with both temporary and fundamental factors taking the steam out of what economists had expected to be a relatively healthy 0.2 per cent advance.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty cautioned against overreacting to the one-month setback, saying the economy is growing. "It is one month," he told reporters on his way into a Conservative party caucus.

"There is some weakness in Europe certainly, and the American recovery is slow. We are going to see variations month to month, but overall for the year we are on track with GDP growth."

But with contractions in 10 out of 18 industrial sectors, including the big ones of manufacturing, construction, mining and oil and gas extraction, "this is no fluke," said Bank of Montreal economist Doug Porter.

Despite private-sector economists' expectations, the weakness had been somewhat foretold by the Bank of Canada last week when it surprisingly downgraded growth for the third quarter to an anemic one per cent, blaming temporary shutdowns in the natural-resources sector.

But Scotiabank economist Derek Holt said the bank would be lucky to meet even its revised forecast now, saying the quarter, which ended in September, is now tracking at about 0.5 per cent growth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"The most disturbing thing about the report is the breadth of declines across so many different sectors."

Scotiabank economist Derek Holt

Cups bearing the Google logo are displayed at the company's Paris offices in this file photo. Publishers in France, Germany and Italy want their governments to impose a tax on Google to save them from extinction. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Publishing. European news sites lobby for 'Google tax'

European news organizations bleeding money and readers are trying to avoid extinction by asking governments in France, Germany and Italy to step in and charge Google for links to stories the Internet search giant has always gotten for free.

Critics — including, unsurprisingly, Google — say the strategy is shortsighted and self-destructive, and the search engine warns it will stop indexing European news sites if forced to pay for links. But publishers advocating a "Google tax" aimed at benefitting their industry point to the example of Brazil, where their counterparts abandoned the search engine and say repercussions have been minimal.

The dispute underscores a key question facing media agencies around the world: Who should benefit from links to online content that is costly to produce and yet generates a fraction of the ad revenue that once allowed newspapers to flourish? THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese tourism

South Korean island to become gambling mecca

South Korea's Incheon city said Wednesday it aims to transform a small fishing island off the country's west coast into a hub of tourism, shopping and gambling to rival Macau and Las Vegas.

The city, 28 kilometres west of the capital Seoul, hopes to eventually attract up to $290 billion US in investments by 2030 to build casinos, hotels, auto-racing tracks, a marina and K-pop concert halls in its district of Yongyu-Muui.

Incheon hopes the tourism complex will lure the growing middle and upper class from China, who are spending more on leisure and travel. The new island will be named Eightcity and built in the shape of "8" after the auspicious number in China.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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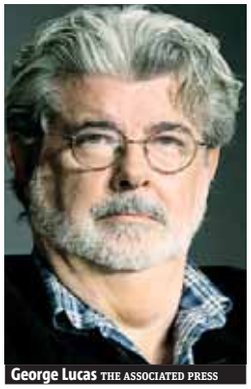
BELIEVING IN STAR WARS IS SO DARN GOOFY

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Finally, there's going to be a fourth Star Wars movie! After almost three decades! Wow!

It's hard to believe there's been nothing since Return of the Jedi, back in 1983! Because there hasn't been. Nothing. *Nothing.* Understand? There have been no prequels, no tampering with the trilogy, no terrible cartoons. Understand?



George Lucas THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Good. And if I hear the word midi-chlorian out of you, it won't just be Greedo shooting first. Got it?

Sigh.

Much like Lando's "mask" in Jabba's palace, I'm not fooling anyone. But, like every human from this galaxy who has ever seen Star Wars, I wish somebody would Jedi mind-trick me into forgetting the prequels and spinoffs and "special editions."

But now George Lucas has sold the franchise to Disney for more than the GDP of Swaziland (for real, I Googled it). And Mickey and Co. say they're going to make at least three more films, which means Star Wars geeks everywhere have new hope.

Much anger, fear, hate and suffering have we for Lucas. It's impossible to think of a creator of anything so popular who is more reviled than he is. Many geeks spit his name the same way NHL fans say "Gary Bettman," but Bettman didn't invent hockey. It's a unique situation.

The ship has sunk

"I've heard a couple of people say that they're worried Disney will ruin the franchise, which to me is like worrying a salvage team retrieving a sunken ship might scratch the hull."

But then again, it's hard to overstate how disappointing Episode I: The Phantom Menace was to anyone who watched Star Wars as a child. Never have so many stood in line for so little.

There's a Lord of the Rings prequel coming out next month: If Lucas was in charge of that project, we'd learn that the battle for Middle Earth was a dispute over an estate tax, that Frodo can carry the ring because of micro-organisms called arthro-mitials and that before Sauron became the Dark Lord he was a whiny teenager.

Was Lucas only in it for the money? Maybe. But more likely he was only in it for the toys, be it multimillion-dollar special effects or plastic figurines.

Star Wars always had lots of merchandise, but in the old days it was more a by-product of the excellent films. The original toys were sort of charming in their clunkiness. A lightsaber appeared magically from inside Luke's arm, decals came off R2-D2 in the bathtub and many frustrating hours were spent in childhood just trying to get Hammerhead to stand up without falling over.

By the time the third prequel came out, there were so many slick toys, ads and cross-promotions it would not have surprised me to see Obi-Wan talking through an AT&T hologram and Darth Vader explaining that he draws his strength from the power of Pepsi.

I've heard a couple of people say that they're worried Disney will ruin the franchise, which to me is like worrying a salvage team retrieving a sunken ship might scratch the hull.

With any luck, Episode 7 will be the movie we were all waiting for in the late '90s. After all, Disney is the film company that has made epic sequels like The Santa Clause 2 and sci-fi fantasy smashes like John Carter. What could possibly go wrong?

May the Force have mercy on us all.

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MUSEI VATICANI

Anniversary

Painting marks half-millennium

Today marks 500 years since the completion of one of the world's greatest artistic masterpieces: Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling.

To commemorate the half-millennium, Pope Benedict XIV has held a simple vespers prayer service, a repeat of the devotion to the finished ceiling by Pope Julius II in 1512.

The Vatican has warned it may eventually limit the number of visitors (now five million a year), with sweat, dust and carbon dioxide all contributing to the painting's slow decay. METRO

Conservation

Air conditioner to help preserve art

In an effort to purify the air inside the sacred site and protect the frescoes, a state-of-the-art air-conditioning system, which Vatican Museums director Antonio Paolucci claims is "the most advanced in the world," will be in place by the end of 2013. "My goal is the elimination of atmospheric pollution, and I believe the new system will work very well," Paolucci said.

But the conservation has not been without criticism.

"Until the last restoration (1980-90) the ceiling was in remarkably good condition for its age," Michael Daley, director at restoration group ArtWatch, told Metro. METRO

Sistine Chapel

- In 1475, the Sistine Chapel was commissioned by Pope Sixtus IV, from whom it gets its name. Since that time, Catholic cardinals have convened at the chapel in a papal conclave to elect a new pope.
- Michelangelo was accused of immorality and obscenity for depicting naked figures in a church. After his death, Church officials ordered another artist to paint loincloths over the offending genitalia.

The Creation of Adam is the most famous section of the fresco.
MUSEI VATICANI

Metropolitan Panel

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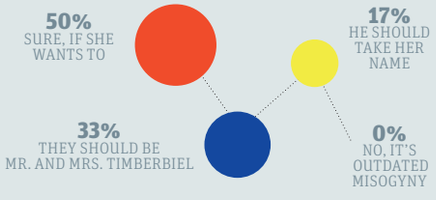
Should Jessica Biel be taking Justin Timberlake's last name?



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SCENE

Cirque du Soleil's Amaluna set to rise in Vancouver

Cycles of the moon. Show less about feminism and more about reconnecting to the world differently

BACKSTAGE PASS
Graeme McRanor
vancouver@metronews.ca

Cirque performers on a teeterboard during a performance of Amaluna. LAURENCE LABAT/CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

Quick — what's blue and yellow and needs a bunch of people to get erect?

It's Cirque du Soleil's Grand Chapiteau — the Big Top — and it's getting raised in Vancouver for Amaluna, a new show that opens at the end of this month at Concord Pacific Place.

Wait — what did you think I meant?

The new show, according to advance publicity, "invites the audience to a mysterious island governed by Goddesses and guided by the cycles of the moon."

And that means, for the first time, the cast of a Cirque show is 70 per cent female.

There's an all-female band, too.

"Amaluna is a tribute to the work and voice of women," says director of creation Fernand Rainville. "(It's) a reflection on balance from a woman's perspective."

But according to director Diane Paulus, it's less about feminism and more about reconnecting to our world in a different way.

What remains the same, of course, is that it features Cirque's always-amazing stable of artists — 52 in all, hailing from 15 different countries — performing mind-blowing stunts on aerial straps, the Chinese pole, teeterboard, tight wire, uneven bars — the list goes on.

And what would a Cirque show be without an incredible set? This one was designed by award-winning set designer Scott Pask, who views the immersive creation as an art installation.

Amaluna premieres in Vancouver on Nov. 23 and has already been extended until Dec. 30. Tickets available at CirqueduSoleil.com.

Go-go to Gogol:
I forgot to mention this pair of shows a couple weeks back — but, hey, I was travelling through India and it slipped my mind. Gogol Bordello, a Gypsey punk band, puts on a frenetic, fun show and you can see them perform at the Commodore Dec. 28 and 29. Tickets for both shows are on sale now via LiveNation.com. Check them out!

Would you like to spend an evening with Blue Rodeo?
Well, you're in luck: the band performs at the Orpheum Saturday, Jan. 5. Tickets go on sale tomorrow at 10 a.m. via LiveNation.com and all Ticketmaster outlets.

SHOPPERS DRUG MART
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 25

Plane-crash king. Director strove for realism in fall from sky

Flight, directed by Robert Zemeckis, opens Friday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

With the upcoming release of the disaster film Flight, acclaimed director Robert Zemeckis can rightly seek the title of Hollywood's plane-crash king.

His latest drama begins with a terrifying catastrophe that sends crew and passengers see-sawing through the air as a routine trip goes horribly awry.

It was a complicated sequence that involved lots of computer-generated technology and meticulous planning, Zemeckis said during a stop in Toronto to promote the film. "All of those things that you use in movies," he said.

His last live-action film, Cast Away, also included a heart-stopping crash landing. The Tom Hanks survival epic features a FedEx plane tossed through the air by a violent storm until it plummets into the ocean.

In the years following that film's release, the aircraft's distinctive dive sparked intense online debate among pilots and aviation experts over the circumstances, staging and plausibility of such a crash.

Zemeckis, who won an Oscar for directing Forrest Gump, says he's hoping there's no eye-rolling over his latest big screen catastrophe in Flight. He said he strove for as much realism as possible.

"We have real pilots and experts vet all these ideas so we don't have anyone doing that," he said of picky eye-rollers.

Zemeckis added that the crash in Flight was based on an actual Alaska Airlines accident in 2000 that killed all 88 people on board.

Things turn out much differently in his fictional version.

It's not a spoiler to reveal that most passengers survive thanks to the bold manoeuvres of a veteran pilot, played by Denzel Washington.

Washington's troubled character, Whip Whitaker, emerges a hero for averting disaster, but soon comes under scrutiny for the role he may have played nonetheless.

"I found the complexity of the character really intriguing, the way all the characters were shades of grey," Zemeckis said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Washington flies high with complex role

Flawed hero. Actor says making Flight was fulfilling a promise he made to an old, departed friend

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

We at least now know how Denzel Washington would answer the age-old question of which super power it's better to have: invisibility or flight.

"I have a flying dream. I've had it for most of my life," Washington says, opening himself up to amateur dream interpreters everywhere.

"Somehow I always end up near the city and I go underneath bridges. And I would just work my way down, and I'd stay under them. Then I would have the other part of the dream, it would be this takeoff forever, and I would (be) like, 'Oh, I've got to stay below the street wires.' And then I'm starting to go back up, but then, you know, I've got to get back below the wires. I don't know what it means."

Washington engages in a slightly different kind of flying in Flight, his latest film from director Robert Zemeckis.

In it, the Oscar-winner portrays a talented but troubled pilot who brazenly lands a malfunctioning plane with minimal casualties — but he happens to be coming off a booze- and cocaine-fueled bender at the time.

Denzel Washington plays a talented — but troubled — pilot in Flight. HANDOUT

What unfolds is a man lauded as a hero and forced to face his demons at the same time.

The role was definitely a challenge for Washington — but then, he likes a challenge. "I wouldn't say it was easy," he says of playing out the turmoil of his character's life. "But you're raw. It was just raw. Your nerves are raw."

And it certainly beats the alternative.

"You know, tough spots for me are pictures I don't want to be on," he says.

"When the people say, 'What's the hardest part of a movie?' You know, if you're on a movie and it's like the third day and you go, 'How many days have we been shooting?' 'Like, three.' 'How many more have we got to go?' '117.' That's a tough movie for me, but this was an adventure."

As for what drew Washington to the project in the first place, it turns out making Flight was part of keeping a promise to an old, departed friend.

"My agent, the late Ed Limato, the last two scripts he gave me were Flight and Safe House," Washington explains.

"That was a part of it — a promise I made to him."

Quoted

"I wouldn't say it was easy. ... It was just raw. Your nerves are raw."

Denzel Washington on playing the role of a heroic, but flawed, pilot in Flight.

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Salman Rushdie and Deepa Mehta teamed up to bring Midnight's Children to the screen. HANDOUT

Rushdie revisits his epic tale

Midnight's Children. Author says writing screenplay was like having an argument with his younger self

LIZ BROWN
liz.brown@metronews.ca

Salman Rushdie was only 34 when he won the Booker Prize for his novel Midnight's Children. That was in 1981. Twenty seven years later, over a dinner with his filmmaker friend Deepa Mehta, he got to talking about movie rights to his storied novel.

Right there, Mehta asked to buy the rights. He sold them to her for $1.

And so began a collaboration culminating in the release of the film adaptation of his book, which opens in theatres this Friday.

Midnight's Children follows its hero Saleem Sinai, who was born at midnight on Aug. 15, 1947, the day of India's independence from the British Raj. Sinai and other children born at this time are gifted with magic powers and as Sinai matures, his life parallels the growing pains of a newly independent India.

Rushdie had the difficult task of paring down his hefty 500-page novel into a screenplay that would be palatable for moviegoers.

To take a story that spans the history of India from 1917 to 1977 and compress it into a 148-minute film required some serious editing. "In the end, you have to ask yourself over and over again what is the essential story. It's finding a way of telling the story in the most compact way and then just having the faith that other things like the cinematography, the costumes, the actual performances, will add back a lot of what you've taken out," says Rushdie.

Wrestling with a story he had written nearly 30 years ago proved an interesting experience for Rushdie as well.

"When I started writing Midnight's Children, I was 28 years old. It's almost a different person who wrote it. Now I'm 65. It was like having an argument with your younger self on how to tell the story," he says.

But that wasn't the only aspect of making the film that took Rushdie down memory lane. He also encountered props that brought back his past.

"Deepah went to enormous trouble to find the right objects from the past," he says.

In one evocative scene for Rushdie, a character uses a camera he knew quite well.

"I thought, 'my god' it's my father's reflex camera," he says.

Indeed, the entire story is personal for Rushdie, as he himself was born just eight weeks before India's independence.

"We were the first generation of free children born in India for more than 200 years. There was the past fading away and the future coming into being and I think that's the reason I wanted to write about it," he says.

Fatwa

Filming disruption

When most hear the name Salman Rushdie, they automatically associate it with fatwa. Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini issued a fatwa, or ruling according to Islamic law, against Rushdie in 1988 following the publication of Rushdie's novel The Satanic Verses. Khomeini's fatwa ordered for Rushdie's execution and subsequently the author went into hiding. Today, Rushdie says he rarely feels the effects of the fatwa. However, while filming Midnight's Children in Sri Lanka, production was shut down for two days because of issues with the Iranian foreign ministry. "We're not exactly clear what happened," he says, speculating that someone in Iran's foreign ministry told the Sri Lankan ambassador they disapproved of the filming. According to Rushdie, the moment the Sri Lankan president was notified production was shut down, he overturned it and they were able to resume work.

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Russell Brand. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Russell Brand dispensing sage advice to celebrities

Russell Brand, who is something of an expert when it comes to facing problems with drugs and alcohol, could offer troubled starlet Lindsay Lohan some pretty valuable advice, but he's saving it for Lohan herself.

"If I did have (advice), I'd give it to her directly," Brand tells Hollyscoop. "Lindsay, I don't suppose you got a phone or anything."

And while he waits for her contact info, the former addict does have some advice for stars who don't necessarily need rehab treatment.

"If they don't have a problem with drugs or alcohol, they should drink a lot and take lots of drugs and enjoy themselves," he says.

Justin Bieber

Stop the presses! Justin Bieber has a hamster

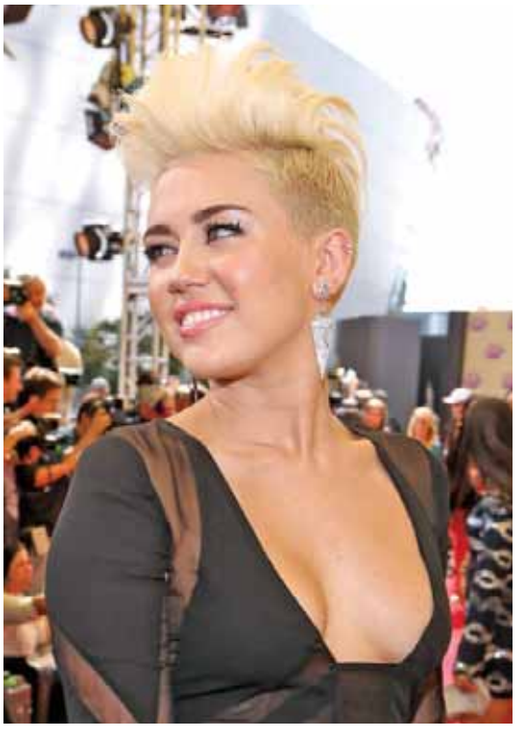
Justin Bieber likes to keep things interesting while on the road, and keeping things interesting apparently involves carting around a pet hamster named Pac.

"This is Pac the hamster, my new Believe Tour pet," Bieber says in a post to Twitter that includes a photo of the tiny rodent. "I will bring him to every meet-and-greet."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Miley Cyrus to have three weddings across planet

Miley Cyrus is reportedly planning to go all out when she marries fiancé Liam Hemsworth, celebrating with three lavish weddings around the globe, according to Star magazine. Cyrus and Hemsworth, who announced their engagement in June, are said to be planning separate ceremonies in Los Angeles, her native Tennessee and his hometown of Melbourne, Australia. All three ceremonies will reportedly take place next year — with a different wedding dress for each — and Cyrus had reportedly budgeted $1 million for the endeavor.

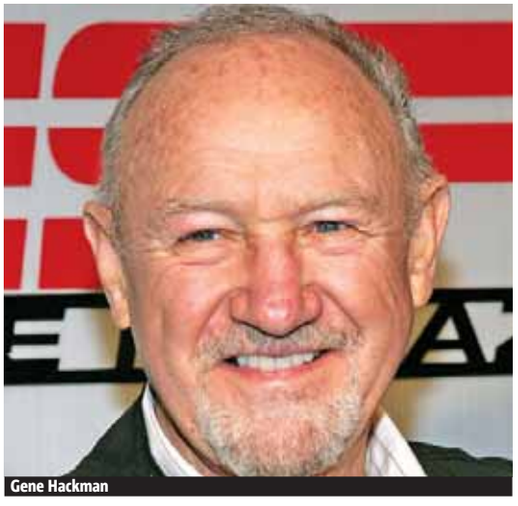
Twitter

@katyperry
I'm starting to rationalize with Doomsday preppers. *whistles a particular REM song*

@billmaher
Looking forward to James Bond movie; Obama's like him cuz he's cool, has license to kill; and Mitt's like him cuz he's been 6 different guys

@realjaclynsmith
An honest person is a person who can play chess on the phone.

@SteveMartinToGo
Even though we've had to cancel all the shows due to the storm, in an unprecedented move, we are going to keep all the ticket money.



Gene Hackman

Don't mess with Gene Hackman

Gene Hackman reportedly slapped a homeless man who had accosted Hackman and his wife, Betsy Arakawa, outside a restaurant in New Mexico, according to TMZ.

The man, Bruce Becker, reportedly approached the couple as they were leaving the restaurant, and an argument ensued, culminating with Becker insulting Arakawa and Hackman defending himself by striking Becker. The police were called but no charges were made against Hackman, as it was determined he acted in self-defence. His rep did not respond to a request for comment.

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Going out on a Lim: A Reitmans-Martin mash-up

Power couple.
Metro gabs with dynamite design duo Martin Lim and their Reitmans collaborator Brigitte Martin about inspiration, comfort and accessibility in fashion

BRIGITTE NOËL
life@metronews.ca

Husband and wife business team Danielle Martin and Pao Lim. PROVIDED

Montreal-based design duo Martin Lim has wasted no time becoming a recognizable name in the Canadian fashion industry. With a mere four collections under its belt, the nascent label has already garnered critical acclaim and won the prestigious Mercedes-Benz Start Up program. Now, the designer power-couple of Danielle Martin and Pao Lim are collaborating with Reitmans on a capsule collection of 10 dresses.

So how did this collaboration start?

Brigitte Martin (Reitmans merchandise manager): When we were in Toronto last year, (Martin Lim) were showing and they really were loved by the public, so they were on our radar. We weren't sure who they were, we thought it was one person. We wanted to meet them and when we did, it was even more than we expected.

Pao Lim: We were excited by the news, the first meeting just fit. We were surprised, because we're a relatively young business.

So how did it go from there?

Brigitte: They weren't sure if at first they should come up with new ideas, but I said no, we love what we've seen so far, that's the real DNA of Martin Lim. I don't know if it was so clear for you what your DNA was for us?

Danielle Martin: Somehow yes and no. If we love something we just make it, we don't think, "is it our DNA or not?" But when we had to create the collection here, we really had to think, OK, what is Martin Lim about, what is significant in our style?

Pao: It's a very concise collection, so every dress has to be recognizable. It's more of a challenge for us.

You used some quite interesting elements, some vegan leather, even neoprene.

Pao: We bound two fabrics together to have that neoprene look: we use silk and we bind it to jersey to have that comfort.

Brigitte: It's the mix of all the fabrics that was a surprise for us. Without intending to, their signature touches came through. The first ideas they drew were the bodycon shift dresses. They were doing a plus and a petite also … Danielle has an interesting way of talking about plus, she calls it "épanouie," which is a blossom.

Danielle: Pao wanted a bodycon dress for the plus sizes, he wanted to have the shape and the curves.
Pao: Yes, it glorifies the woman curve. Very often, when people design plus sizes, they tend to try to cover the body. We say, why hide?

Show off your shape

"Very often, when people design plus sizes, they tend to try to cover the body. We say, why hide?"
Pao Lim
Co-creator of Martin Lim

Danielle: I really like to use the silhouette to attract le regard to the décolleté, to the front. For a petite, (the dress) just elongates the legs. The waist is slightly higher. You can wear it with a jacket, or without, or go to dinner.

From office to party!

Brigitte: Yes! That was the versatility we were looking for, that's sort of part of our brand platform — versatile and comfortable. That's not what you think when you see this collection. (Comfort) wasn't the ultimate goal at the beginning, but it wound up working very well.

Danielle: I have to see if I can sit, if I can walk, if I can live in my clothes.

THE MARTIN LIM FOR REITMANS COLLECTION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE ON NOV. 1 AND IN SELECT STORES ON NOV. 2.

Two of a kind

LIMI

It's a mixing of texture, the bonding of the shine with the knit, and the injection of colour on top. It just lifts you.

- Brigitte Martin, Reitmans

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- Brigitte Martin, Reitmans

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IN THIS HECTIC MODERN WORLD, TWITTER HAS BECOME A COOL AND SUCCINCT WAY OF COMMUNICATING. IT ALLOWS ME TO BE ACCESSIBLE, INSTANTLY SPEAK MY MIND, AND CONNECTS ME WITH ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE. WHETHER IT'S A FASHION QUESTION OR YOU JUST WANT TO COMMENT ON LIFE'S BIGGER PICTURE, I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

@Jeanne_Beker: Happy Halloween to little ghosts+goblins everywhere! Missing having my girls in town more than ever. Sigh. Just more candy for me I guess!

@Jeanne_Beker: Getting my make-up done by artist Eden Bluestein @themarilynshow

@Jeanne_Beker: Et voila! As Pierrot! Costume by Izzy Camilleri....

@Jeanne_Beker: At Coquine, having a late Happy Halloween lunch with my dear mum!

@Jeanne_Beker: Gus, the frog dog...

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Halifax

Leah Forsey

Project manager at Halifax Magazine

Age: 28

What she's wearing
Blazer is Attitude by Jay Manuel, Old Navy T-Shirt, Skirt from Envy, Shoes from Macy's, Marc by Marc Jacobs purse

Her inspiration
"I'm inspired by the film actresses from the '50s and '60s like Grace Kelly, Marilyn Monroe and Bridget Bardot."

THE KIT PHOTOBLOGGER: MEGHAN TANSEY WHITTON, FASHIONEASTHALIFAX.COM

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Editor's picks

Clarins Revitalizing Gel

$48, clarins.ca

L'Oreal Paris Hydra-Energetic Ice Cold Eye Roller

$16.99, lorealparis.ca

L'Oreal Paris Hydra Energetic Magnetic Charcoal Cleanser

$12.99, lorealparis.ca

Gillette Fusion ProGlide Styler

$26.99, gillette.com

On taming the facial tiger

Get in your face!

Maintaining your money-makin' mo' is as easy as taking a few moments to embrace that beautiful face

It used to be significant others only who would dread the hockey playoff season when it came time to deal with unruly facial hair. Now the once-a-year beard blitz is a double whammy thanks to Movember. Still, there is no reason that 'stache can't be stylish — and well-pruned. We have a few pieces of advice to get you and mo' through the next 30 days.

Keep it neat

Boys, if you don't own a trimmer, we suggest you get one — either that or learn how to use tweezers without flinching. Think of your 'stache as an eyebrow. Get rid of any wayward follicles and smooth down those strays. Be creative with the look, and keep the rest of your face well shaved to draw the eye toward your fundraising endeavor.

Glow time

So what if your 'stache does look a bit more caterpillar creepy than cultured? Caring for your skin will help distract attention from your upper lip. We recommend a good moisturizer and facial toner that will awaken your pores and keep your skin looking healthy throughout the month. And don't forget your eyes. An eye roller will refresh any signs of fatigue like under-eye circles or darkness.

Work the 'do

If you are not as efficient as other guys when it comes to facial hair growth, or are just worried about an overall unkempt look, splurge on a haircut to balance out the look. The good cut will help to keep you looking dapper no matter what is taking place below your nose.

METRO

Don't blame us if you're caught relishing in your own reflection once or twice this month. ISTOCK

Stepping out with the 'stache

In recognition of Movember, TOMS is offering shoes in two different styles featuring the signature moustache

- A portion of the proceeds goes to Movember, and, like all TOMS shoes, with every pair purchased a pair is given to a child in need.
- **Check out toms.ca/movember for more.**

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Worried about your sushi rolling skills? No need with these squares

Smoked Salmon Sushi Squares

This recipe makes 16 servings. LORELLA ZANETTI, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

ROSE REISMAN
for more, visit
rosereisman.com

My corporate clients vote this their favourite appetizer. It's the perfect solution for those who shy away from sushi because of concern about eating raw fish.

The key is cooking the sushi rice properly. I always use a water-to-rice ratio of one-to-one, never stir the rice, and keep it covered even when it's cooling — using a rice cooker is easy, since it can never go wrong. You can find rice wine vinegar already flavoured for sushi, so you don't have to add any sugar. Nori is available in good quality supermarkets and Asian food shops.

Ingredients

- 2 cups sushi rice
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 1 tbsp granulated sugar
- 16 thin slices English cucumber (unpeeled)
- 4 oz smoked salmon
- 1 tbsp light mayonnaise
- 1/2 tsp wasabi (Japanese horseradish)
- 1 sheet nori (dried seaweed)
- 1 tsp sesame seeds, toasted
- low-sodium soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger (optional)

1. Combine the rice and water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and boil for 1 minute. Reduce the heat to low, cover and cook for 12 minutes. Remove from the heat and let stand, covered, for 10 minutes.

2. While the rice cooks, combine the vinegar and sugar in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring to dissolve the sugar. Remove from the heat.

3. Turn the rice out into a large bowl. Stir in the vinegar and sugar mixture. Cool just until the rice no longer feels hot. Don't let the rice get cold or it will dry out.

4. Line an 8-inch-square baking dish with plastic wrap. Cover the bottom with the cucumber slices. Lay the smoked salmon over top. Mix the mayonnaise and wasabi together and spread over the salmon.

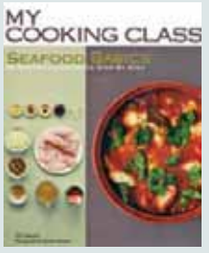
5. Place half of the rice over the mayonnaise. Pat it firmly to an even thickness, dipping your fingers in water to prevent the rice from sticking to your hands. Top with the nori. Add the remaining rice, patting it firmly to an even thickness.

6. Invert onto a serving platter and cut into 16 pieces. Sprinkle with the sesame seeds. Serve immediately, or cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to 8 hours. Serve at room temperature, garnished with soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger, if desired.

ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

Cookbook of the Week

Dive into the sea



With step-by-step photo directions and 86 recipes, My Cooking Class: Seafood Basics by Abi Fawcett is your guide to mastering seafood. Tutorials demonstrate basic techniques such as filleting a cooked round fish and butterflying shrimp, and concise instructions remind cooks of the do's and don'ts of handling seafood.

Seafood Basics is divided into eight chapters and includes recipes such as: Classic Fish Stew, Crab Bisque, Moroccan Fish Tagine, Louisiana Seafood Gumbo, Saltencrusted Sea Bass, Fresh Fish Pizza, Creamed Clam Linguine, Quick Monkfish Curry, Maryland Crab Cakes, Lobster with Cayenne, Stuffed Baked Squid and Spanish Seafood Paella. METRO

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Easy seasonal room updates

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Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Updating your place can be done quickly and inexpensively by shaking up your accessories.

With fall settled in and winter on its way, adding a few trend-setting home comforts will help give your rooms a boost.

What's hot for fall/winter is bold patterns and strong colours.

Here's a primer as to what changes will give you the biggest bang for your buck.

Modular carpet tiles are a great way to add creativity to an entrance. FLOR.COM

Front Entrance

Here's your chance to create a stylish welcome with something that is not only attractive, but useful. A series of modular carpet tiles can be arranged to fit any entrance and the design/colour choices are endless. They are usually made of synthetic, durable low-weave carpeting pieces, so are flat enough to slide under existing closet hall doors and simply stick in place to the floor with safety tape. Other ways to add pizzazz to your front entrance: a new pendant light, a wall hung mirror, or simply paint the inside of your door a fashionable colour.

Remembrance carpet tiles, flor.com

Liven up your bedroom with bright bedding sets. URBANOUTFITTERS.COM

Bedding

The bed is the largest piece of furniture in the bedroom, so making a seasonal change with bedding means changing a large part of the room. Try to include colours that already exist in the bedroom so that your new bedding blends with the entire room's decor scheme. Don't forget the designer details such as a co-ordinating bedskirt, pillow shams and a decorative top blanket. Other ways to liven up your bedroom: add stationary drapery panels on each side of the window, paint the wall behind the bed a fashionable colour or add a new upholstered headboard.

Paper Medallion bedding, urbanoutfitters.com

Consider pillows to be artwork for the sofa. POTTERYBARN.COM

Living room

For most good decorators, the colour of the sofa is neutral, which means injecting some colourful pillows isn't that difficult. Wondering where to find inspiration for your new pillows? Look no further than a great colour in your artwork or area rug to create a pulled-together room. Other ways to decorate your living room: a new area rug, lampshades or a cosy throw will all help to take your room from boring to fabulous for just a few dollars and in just minutes.

Suzani embroidered pillow cover, potterybarn.com

Biodegradable

Stoop and scoop the green way

Are biodegradable doggie-poop bags actually greener?
-Allison, at the dog park

QUEEN OF GREEN
Tovah Paglaro
green@metronews.ca

Choosing to bag Fido's business in a biodegradable poop bag is absolutely the green choice. Given the correct conditions, biodegradable poop bags will perform as promised.

Here's the hitch. The conditions in landfills are anything but correct. In most landfills, conditions prevent organic material from decomposing.

Furthermore, poop in landfills leads to water contamination and methane gas production, which is why most landfills actually have a no-feces (dog or otherwise) policy.

So the question isn't one of wrapping — choose the green bags — but one of disposal.

First of all, do pick up the dog poop! Short of the gross factor, the big problems with leaving the poop to nature in high-density areas are:

• Dog poop is carried by storm water directly into waterways, where it causes bacterial contamination.

• It's nitrogen-rich so it depletes oxygen levels, hurting fish and other wildlife.

There are responsible ways to keep the doggie-doo out of the landfill and to make sure those biodegradable poop bags have a chance to work their magic.

• Compost the poop.

• Flush the poop.

If your knee-jerk reaction to dog-poop compost is less than sunny, it's time to reconsider. With proper set-up, composting yields rich soil and safely returns the poop to the earth. Popular home composting methods include:

• A compost pit — About one metre deep by one metre wide, with a cover.

• Dog poop compost bins — available at pet stores and garden centres.

• Vermicompost — gross, sure! But it works.

Dog-waste compost should be kept separate from other compost and is best used on ornamental — not edible — gardens.

Prefer to flush the poop? Biodegradable — but not compostable or degradable — baggies can be flushed, making it simple to send your dog's poop down the pipes. Just be sure to check with your municipality to ensure the sewage system can handle the grit.

Compostable bags require the heat of a compost pile to break down, so they cannot be flushed. And beware of the word degradable (as opposed to biodegradable) which refers to formulated polythene.

Polythene bags will fragment, not biodegrade, leaving tiny bits of plastic in the water.

Not cleaning up after your dog can have negative impacts on the environment. ISTOCK IMAGES

There is always a chance that soap residue is left inside the wine glass after cleaning. You don't want to affect the enjoyment of your expensive wine! ISTOCK IMAGES

Cleaning wine glasses without soapy residue

A friend of mine who loves fine wine recently told me that you should never use dish soap to clean expensive wine glasses. Is this true? If so, how do you get them really clean?

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

I've heard this theory as well. They say that when you wash a glass with dish soap — no matter what kind of dish soap — there is always a good chance that a small amount of the soap residue is left inside the glass and that when you pour the wine into the glass it will affect both the taste and enjoyment of the drink.

I've done some investigating and some manufacturers, such as Riedel crystal, who specialize in wine glasses, agree with this theory.

So how do we deal with this? The recommended way to clean this type of glassware is first to rinse the wine glasses under the tap with lots of warm running water, then with steam, such as over a steaming pot on the stove.

The steam does two things. First, it will disinfect the glass and secondly it helps ensure no spots of any kind are left. Once the glass has been steamed, a good, dry linen or cotton dishtowel is ideal to dry it, leaving the glass spot free and with a beautiful shine.

Enjoy the wine!

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Choosing your colour scheme

DIY ideas. Whether you're bored with your space or ready for a redesign, choosing a colour scheme can be an intimidating task

Trying to turn a new home into your own is a big task. ISTOCK IMAGES

Follow these tips to get started:

1. Formal areas first
Start with rooms like the living room, dining room or entrance way and ensure that the rest of your home follows their lead.

This could mean using different tones of the same colours in additional rooms or one of the colours in different accents elsewhere.

2. Follow nature
Outside, darker tones lie below your feet while the lightest colours are above you.

Follow this pattern in your own home, from floors to ceiling.

3. Use what you have
Look around the room for the largest pattern, this could be the drapery or an upholstered piece of furniture. Use this pattern as the basis for your colour palette, pulling colours that you like out of the overall pattern, including any neutrals.

4. Shots of colour
Use an accent colour — the strongest colour you have chosen — in the least amount in the room.

This could mean adding it through throw pillows or even flower arrangements. The walls should be the majority of a neutral colour, with furniture pulling in the secondary colour choice.

5. Pay attention to architecture
Follow the style and period of your home when choosing colours, as well as the size of the rooms.

Make small rooms feel cozy by choosing darker colours, and large rooms feel light and airy with bright neutrals.

6. Use black
No matter what colour palette you choose, always try to incorporate black in some way into the room. Black will make the colours pop and tie everything together.

7. Look good in your home
Just as you choose clothes in colours that flatter you, do the same for the colours in your home.

8. Stay true to personal taste
The most important thing to remember when choosing a colour palette is to pick colours that you like. When you are passionate about the design in your home, others will respect that. The best way to decorate is with your own personality.

TO GET MORE INSPIRATION FOR YOUR HOME, WATCH BROTHERS TERRY AND JON WITTMAACK AS THEY RUN THEIR HOME IMPROVEMENT BUSINESS IN BROTHERS ON CALL, AIRING TUESDAYS AT 9 P.M. ET/PT ON DIY NETWORK CANADA

Organize the gateway into your home

Colder temperatures mean we're trading our tank tops for coats, scarves and gloves. Now, more than ever, is the perfect time to set up space to pile on, and peel off, those extra layers — not to mention a place to organize the keys, handbags and mail cluttering your dining room table. Don't have the luxury of a foyer or mudroom? We found some essentials to help fake one.

TINA CHADHA
Metro World News in New York City

1

Umbrella stand

With all the rainy weather we have, this item is a must.

It prevents drippy umbrellas from ruining the floor and saves you the hassle of ever searching for one again.

Porcelain Umbrella Stand, $159, horchow.com.

2

Mirror

Take one last look before running out the door and you won't ever get stuck with lipstick on your teeth or toothpaste on your face again.

Crate and Barrel Clarendon wall mirror, $149, crateandbarrel.com.

3

Hooks or a coat rack

Those of us who don't have a hallway closet need to get creative with hooks or invest in a coat rack. Both take up very little space and prevent the coats-on-the-sofa catastrophe.

Anthropologie Melded Poppies Double Hook, $22, anthropologie.com.

4

Shelf, console or even dresser

No matter what kind of space you have, you need a spot to stash mail, keys, sunglasses and more. If you don't have a foyer, a shelf or super skinny console next to your door is perfect for holding the essentials — as well as some picture frames and candles. If you're lucky enough to have a passageway, a dresser or unit with drawers is ideal. Use the cubbies to store and hide clutter. Reclaimed Wood Chalkboard shelf, $49 each, urbanoutfitters.com.

5

Benches

You need to park it to pull off boots and strappy heels. Bonus: most benches come with extra storage space below.

Pottery Barn Samantha Entry Bench, $399, potterybarn.com.

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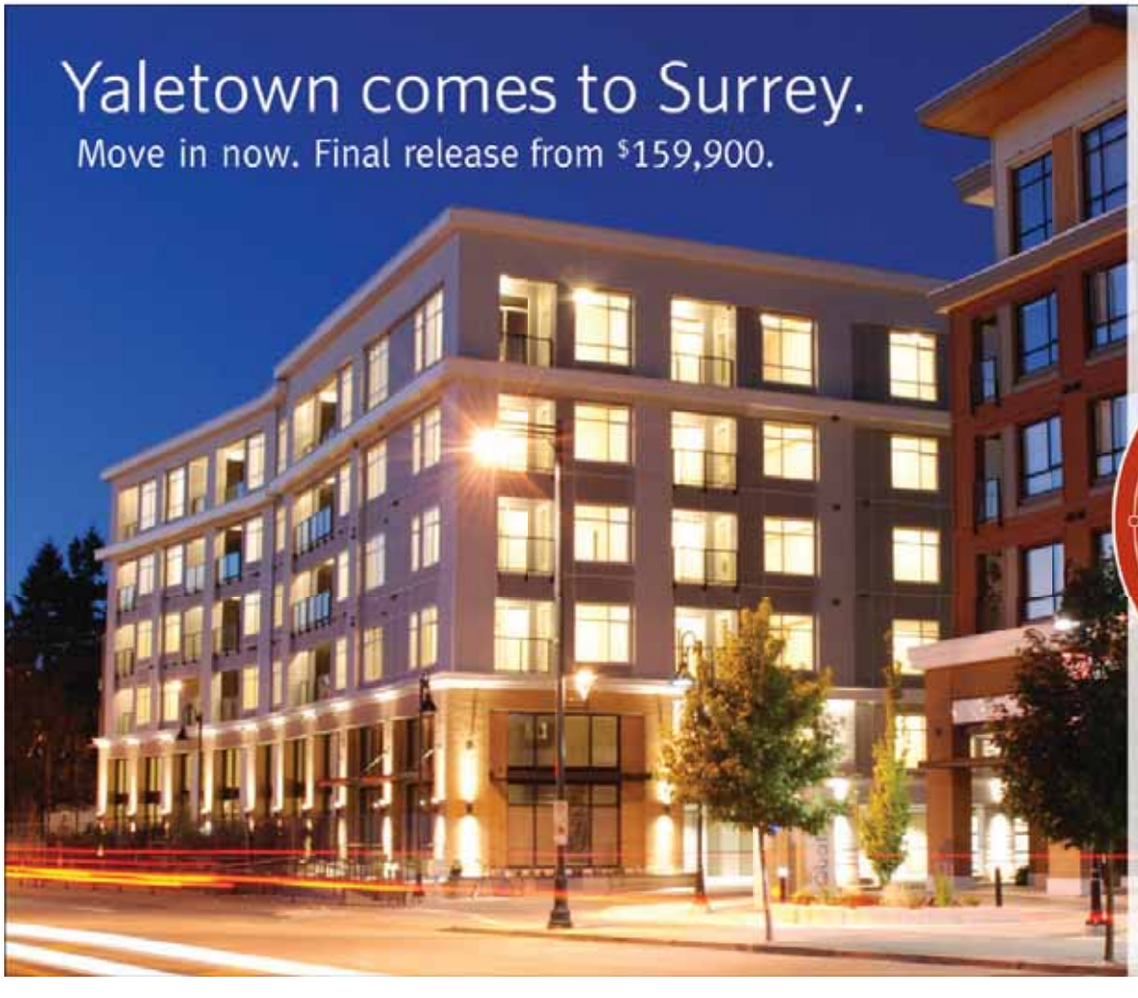

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*Subject to qualification

SPORTS 4

Caps need Robson's best against Galaxy

MLS playoffs. Scottish midfielder believes Vancouver can pull off upset against defending champs

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

Barry Robson's brief but sometimes tumultuous tenure with the Vancouver Whitecaps has provided a mix of lasting images for local soccer fans.

One such instance was back on July 18 against the L.A. Galaxy, when he and David Beckham seemed to have an issue with each other throughout the match, jousting verbally and physically back and forth before mutually coming together in a show of respect when the final whistle sounded.

That was all part of the entertainment that warm summer evening, one that produced a 2-2 comeback draw from the visiting Galaxy.

Robson scored that night, as did Beckham, in a game the Whitecaps were by far the better club throughout most of the match, save for the final 10 minutes, when L.A. scored twice.

The Whitecaps and Galaxy clash again Thursday in a Major League Soccer Cup first-round, single-game elimination match.

The Whitecaps 33-year-old midfielder says focus isn't on Robson versus Beckham Part II.

"I just think it would be an enormous and great achievement for the football club to win the game," said Robson Tuesday, hours before the Whitecaps flew to L.A.

"We've had a good week in training and we're all prepared and ready for it, and it's a game that's going to be tough. We know that. We could go down there and win it and you've seen for 70 minutes at home how good we were that night.

"And if we produce that again, we've got every chance."

Robson, along with fellow high-priced Scottish import Kenny Miller, didn't start in the regular-season finale against Real Salt Lake.

When the week of training began, Robson and Miller practised mostly with the reserve players and not the starts.

But whether Robson starts or is substituted in against the Galaxy, the Whitecaps are going to need the same player who seemed to be at his best matched up against Beckham a little more than three months ago.

When at his best, Robson has shown he can help the local club win games. Bringing his top game is a must if they are to try and pull off a tremendous first-round upset against the defending MLS champs.

Other times, his surly on-field demeanour — directed at referees, opposing players, coaches and even his teammates — has brought about stern criticism from fans and media.

"We've all seen how I am. I want to win the game and maybe too much sometimes," said Robson.

"I get overexuberant and maybe take it a bit too far, but that's just maybe trying to win a football match so much."

Whitecaps midfielder Barry Robson takes the ball up field against Real Salt Lake's Chris Wingert at BC Place on Aug. 11. JESSICA HAYDAHL/GETTY IMAGES FILE

L.A.'s other offensive threat

Los Angeles striker Robbie Keane finished fourth in the MLS with 16 goals in just 28 games despite making numerous trips around the world as Ireland's national captain.

- He led Los Angeles in scoring while Landon Donovan and David Beckham struggled with nagging injuries, propelling the Galaxy through four largely outstanding months of play.
- Keane's recent past has been particularly sharp. He scored five goals in five games during a late-season stretch that secured Los Angeles' spot in the playoffs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHL

Giants swap blue-liners with Oil Kings

The Vancouver Giants were involved in the Western Hockey League trade market Wednesday.

The Giants dealt 19-year-old veteran defenceman David Musil to the Edmonton Oil Kings in exchange for 17-year-old blue-liner Mason Geertsen, who is in his second season in the WHL.

The Giants also acquired a first-round pick in the 2013 Bantam Draft.

"Moving David was a hard things to do; however, with the current stage in our system it was important to acquire a solid 17-year-old prospect as well as a first-round pick to rebuild the program," said Giants general manager Scott Bonner in a statement.

Along with youth, Geertsen adds considerable size to the Giants blue-line, at six-foot-four and 203 pounds. He has four assists in 15 games with the Oil Kings to this point in the season and is expected to be in the Giants lineup Thursday against the Medicine Hat Tigers.

CAM TUCKER/METRO

MLS

Dynamo douse Fire to move on to second round

Will Bruin scored twice as the Houston Dynamo beat the Chicago Fire 2-1 on Wednesday in the opening round of the Major League Soccer Eastern Conference playoffs.

The Dynamo, which hadn't beaten the Fire since 2010, advances to host top-seeded Kansas City in Sunday's first leg of the Eastern Conference semi-finals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Lions lineman Olafioye gets CFL nod — again

Lions lineman Jovan Olafioye, left, congratulates kicker Paul McCallum after a game-winning field goal against the Blue Bombers to end an October 2010 game in Vancouver. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Jovan Olafioye recorded the hat trick Tuesday.

The B.C. Lions import right tackle was named the team's most outstanding lineman nominee for the Canadian Football League's end-of-year awards, making it the third time in as many years the 24-year-old Olafioye has received such a distinction.

He has also played in every single game — playoffs and Grey Cup included — with the Lions since he joined the team prior to the start of the 2010 regular season.

"It's definitely a blessing to get recognized but it's really a team effort," said Olafioye after the Lions' rain-soaked practice Wednesday in Surrey. "The whole offensive line deserves a shout-out for this."

The Lions offensive line has allowed just 27 quarterback sacks all season, which has helped give the offence sufficient time to operate.

Only the Montreal Alouettes have allowed fewer sacks, at 25.

"They deserve any and all credit they get because those guys work their tails off," said quarterback Travis Lulay, whose status for Saturday's game against the Saskatchewan Roughriders is still questionable due to a sore throwing shoulder.

"We know, the guys in the locker-room know how important those guys are to us. The play begins with those guys."

CAM TUCKER/METRO

Quoted

"If we don't have protection or if we don't have some sort of crease in the run game, nothing's happening."

Lions quarterback Travis Lulay on the importance of his offensive line

Building hallowed ground in the City by the Bay?

MLB. Giants brass talk dynasty amidst World Series celebration

San Francisco Giants CEO Larry Baer wants to add more World Series championships to the two his franchise has captured the past three seasons.

Why not build a baseball dynasty in the Bay Area?

Baer said Wednesday the front office is already hard at work beginning plans for the 2013 roster — and he is optimistic many familiar faces will stick around, including second baseman and NL championship series MVP Marco Scutaro.

"Nobody thinks we should be done," Baer said. "I think we want to get lots of people back, and he's one of them.... My favourite sign was 'San Francisco, Happiest Place on Earth.' That's how we all feel about this. That's what the goal is."

National League West champion San Francisco completed a four-game sweep of the Detroit Tigers on Sunday night. The Giants and the city celebrated with an orange-and-black parade through downtown Wednesday.

General manager Brian Sabean called it a priority to re-sign Scutaro, centre fielder Angel Pagan and left-handed reliever Jeremy Affeldt. So far, he said, his staff has spoken only "informally" about what's next as everyone wanted to get through Wednesday's festivities before starting in earnest.

Scutaro, who celebrated his 37th birthday Tuesday and then partied with his teammates a day later before they part ways for the winter, said it's a no-brainer he would like to return.

"What a question. Of course I want to come back," Scutaro said. "Sometimes there are decisions you can't control. I don't know what they're thinking, what other teams are thinking. I just have to wait. The only thing I can say is I hope everything works out because I want to come back here."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"I want 15 years, three thousand million dollars."

Free agent second baseman Marco Scutaro, joking when asked Wednesday what it would take to bring him back to San Francisco

Fans line Market Street in San Francisco on Wednesday to celebrate the Giants' World Series championship. EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

Championship support

Giants share love with fans

Orange-and-black-clad hordes flooded the streets of San Francisco on Wednesday for a ticker-tape parade celebrating the World Series champion Giants — a Halloween treat made even sweeter as a repeat performance from 2010.

Tens of thousands of people decked out in the team's holiday-appropriate colours stood 30-deep behind barriers, climbed trees and mounted rooftops along the city's main commercial street to watch their favourite players wave from convertibles.

"The support they gave us was unwavering," Giants manager Bruce Bochy said of the fans.

"Even when we were six to seven games back, they kept filling the park," he added. "They never gave up on us. They are like part of the club."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pacers rip win from Raptors' grasp

Pacers Tyler Hansbrough and Paul George battle for the ball with Raptors centre Jonas Valanciunas on Wednesday in Toronto. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

David West scored 14 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter Wednesday as the Indiana Pacers edged Toronto 90-88, spoiling what had been a thrilling Raptors' regular-season opener at Air Canada Centre.

Kyle Lowry scored 21 points, while Jonas Valanciunas had 12 points and 10 rebounds in his NBA debut for the new-look Raptors.

Five Raptors scored in double figures as Andrea Bargnani added 16, Jose Calderon finished with 15, and DeMar DeRozan finished with 10.

Roy Hibbert and Paul George added 14 apiece for the Pacers.

The Raptors took a 71-63 lead into the fourth quarter of a nailbiting see-saw battle that featured 15 lead changes to that point. But some major defensive lapses left a wide-open West draining shot after shot in the final few minutes, with his basket with 1:20 left pulling the visitors to within 88-87.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opening night

90	88
Pacers	Raptors

Raptors swing a deal

The Raptors agreed on a contract extension with forward DeMar DeRozan ahead of Wednesday's midnight deadline.

- According to sources, the 23-year-old agreed to terms on a four-year deal worth $38 million.
- DeRozan played in 63 games last season, averaging 16.7 points, two assists and 3.3 rebounds per game.

Tennis

Raonic tops Chardy in Paris

Canadian Milos Raonic reached the third round of the Paris Masters with a 6-7(4), 7-6(4), 6-3 win over Jeremy Chardy on Wednesday. Raonic kept his hopes alive for a late spot at the World Tour Finals in London. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Harden makes immediate impact after signing pact with Rockets

James Harden agreed to a five-year, $80-million US contract with the Houston Rockets on Wednesday.

The Rockets acquired the reigning Sixth Man of the Year in a stunning trade with Oklahoma City on Saturday night.

Harden then went out and scored 37 points and 12 assists in a stirring debut for Houston, and Carlos Delfino made four three-pointers in the fourth quarter to lift the Rockets to a 105-96 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Wednesday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

James Harden drives to the basket on Pistons centre Greg Monroe on Wednesday in Detroit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Oliver, Davis back with Jays

The Toronto Blue Jays exercised the $3-million US club option on left-hander Darren Oliver's contract Wednesday and signed outfielder Rajai Davis to a $2.5-million, one-year deal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA. Davis nets 21 in close loss to Spurs

Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and those wily San Antonio Spurs showed the kids a thing or two.

No. 1 draft pick Anthony Davis fit right in for New Orleans in his pro debut, scoring 21 points with a dazzling variety of offensive moves, but the Spurs came through in the final minute for a 99-95 victory over the Hornets on opening night Wednesday.

Parker hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 49.6 seconds remaining, Duncan tacked on a couple of free throws and the Spurs celebrated at the end, having turned back a franchise that hopes to rebuild around a couple of rookies.

Davis and fellow first-round pick Austin Rivers both started for the Hornets, who fell to the bottom of the Western Conference last season after trading Chris Paul to the Clippers. Rivers struggled in his debut, going 1 of 9 from the field and finishing with just seven points.

Not so for Davis. Even with only one season of college, which he put to good use by leading Kentucky to a national title and earning player of the year honours, he showed no signs of being a tentative rookie.

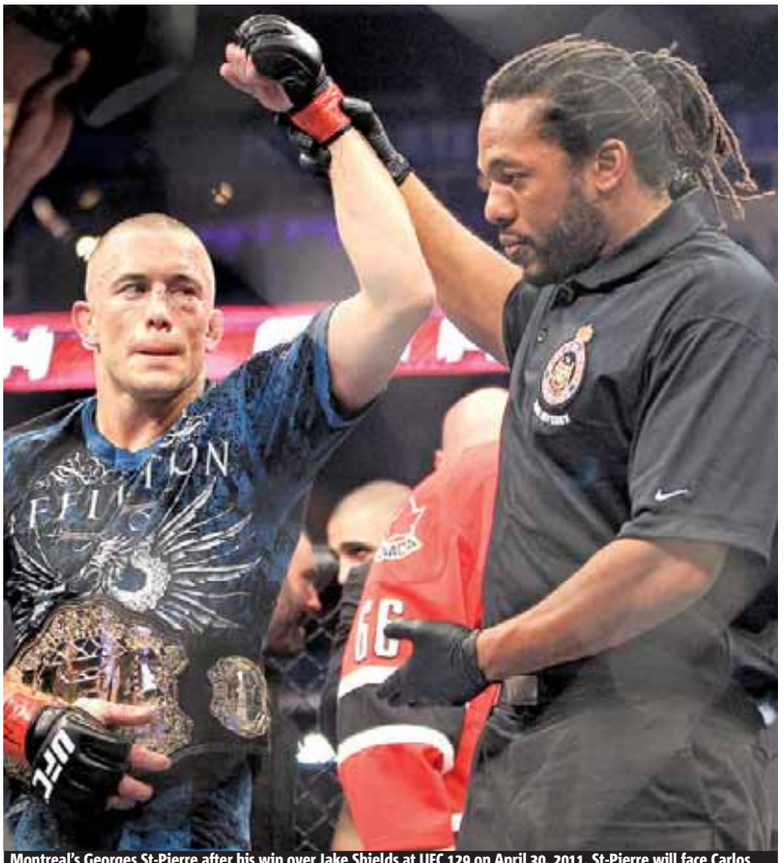
"He's only going to get better," Hornets coach Monty Williams said. "I love him because he takes losing hard, the way I do. He's in there feeling like it's the end of the world. You can't help but love guys who take it in the heart the way you do."

Of course, considering how it was at Kentucky, this is going to take some getting used to. Davis and the Wildcats lost only two games last season. He's halfway to that total with his new team.

"I'm just trying to play the game. Go out there and explore," Davis said. "If I don't have shots, look for my teammates. And they were doing a great job of finding me in my sweet spots. All the credit goes to them really."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New Orleans Hornets' Anthony Davis, left, slam-dunks Wednesday in New Orleans. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Montreal's Georges St-Pierre after his win over Jake Shields at UFC 129 on April 30, 2011. St-Pierre will face Carlos Condit in a Nov. 17 title fight at the Bell Centre in Montreal. RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

UFC star St-Pierre seeing the bright side of knee injury

Title fight. Montrealer says he's ready for Bell Centre welterweight bout against Condit

Georges St-Pierre has somehow managed to find the silver lining to reconstructive knee surgery and the lengthy rehab that inevitably follows.

"This injury was a negative thing in the beginning but it became a positive thing at the end," said the UFC welterweight champion.

"Because it allowed me to correct my training and make it better and improve it."

St-Pierre (22-2) will test his knee and new training regimen — part of which involved training with track sprinters in his hometown of Montreal — on Nov. 17 against Carlos "Natural Born Killer" Condit, who won the UFC's interim title during St-Pierre's absence.

Quoted

"I had the mentality that more is better, but I realize that's wrong."

UFC welterweight champion Georges St. Pierre on overtraining and his new workout routine since knee surgery.

The two 170-pound division belts will become one at the Bell Centre, where the real welterweight champion will be confirmed at UFC 154 in St-Pierre's first fight since an April 2011 win over Jake Shields at Toronto's Rogers Centre.

It's a welcome return for the UFC, which counts the 31-year-old St-Pierre as its biggest pay-per-view draw. GSP is literally money in the UFC bank.

The fighter has long been known for gruelling workouts and for taking little time off from the gym.

He now believes his injury was perhaps caused by that pedal-to-the-metal training approach.

St-Pierre's injury-plagued fall in 2011 started with a minor left knee problem and pulled hamstring.

Because of the injury, he believes he overcompensated with his right leg when he returned to training.

The result of an attempted takedown during a wrestling drill was a torn anterior cruciate ligament and a small tear to his internal miniscus.

Reconstructive surgery to the right knee followed in mid-December.

St-Pierre will need to be at the top of his game against Condit, a former WEC champion who has disposed of Jake Ellenberger, Canadian Rory MacDonald, Dan Hardy, Dong Hyun Kim and Nick Diaz since losing a split decision in his UFC debut to Martin Kampmann in April 2009.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Las Vegas

UFC announces Super Bowl bout

UFC featherweight champion Jose Aldo will face former lightweight title-holder Frankie Edgar at UFC 156 on Feb. 2 in Las Vegas.

The two were slated to meet at UFC 153 in Rio de Janeiro before Aldo was forced to withdraw due to injury. Now they will fight on the UFC's annual Super Bowl weekend card.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MMA retirement

'American Psycho' calls it a career

Stephan "The American Psycho" Bonnar has retired from MMA at 35.

Bonnar (17-8) leaves on the back of a 205-pound loss to middleweight champion Anderson Silva on Oct. 13. Bonnar had been contemplating retirement before that bout but agreed to fight when matched with a star of Silva's stature. He is perhaps best known for his epic 2005 battle with Forrest Griffin in the finale of Season 1 of The Ultimate Fighter reality show, a bloody fight that is credited with helping spread the popularity of MMA. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Legal wrangling. Former NFL players file brief in concussion cases

Arguing that "football has become the site of perhaps the gravest health crisis in the history of sports," lawyers for thousands of former NFL players asked a judge to reject the league's bid to dismiss their lawsuits about concussions.

In a brief filed Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia, the players dispute the league's framing of the cases as a labour issue that should be governed by the sport's collective bargaining agreements instead of the legal system.

Among the players' arguments: Relevant CBAs did not address long-term brain injuries, the NFL committed fraud by concealing risks of repeated head trauma, and the league has a common-law duty to protect players.

"The NFL knew that players were exposed to risks of severe neurological injuries, yet did nothing to prevent them," the brief says, adding that the league "failed to warn players about the dangers of concussive and sub-concussive impacts," did not advocate preventative rule changes and did not "implement equipment standards adapted for head trauma."

The league filed its motion to dismiss the lawsuits in August and now will have the chance to respond to the players' reply. The NFL repeatedly has stated publicly it did not intentionally mislead players and has tried to better protect their health.

More than 100 concussion lawsuits against the NFL have been brought together before U.S. District Judge Anita B. Brody.

Unless Brody agrees to dismiss them, or an umbrella settlement is reached, she probably would decide what evidence can be used at trial, whether a class can be certified for medical monitoring and other pre-trial issues. The cases might then return to their home districts for trial.

The players' response Wednesday says "a party cannot shirk its own duty by pointing to the duties of others" and that the "NFL deceived club doctors (as well as players) by insisting repeatedly that head trauma carried little long-term risk for football players."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

3,500

More than 3,500 former players have sued the NFL stating not enough was done by the league to inform them about the dangers of concussions.

Sounders fans to decide whether GM stays or goes

Inside a voting stall adorned with all the usual trappings of the election process, Bill and Chris Schlittenhart let their voices be heard.

The Schlittenharts spent their time before a recent Seattle Sounders home game helping decide the fate of general manager Adrian Hanauer, whose future employment as the man in charge is now in the hands of season ticket holders and fan supporters.

"It makes more of a complete team. We're all part of the team," Chris Schlittenhart said. "It's not a matter of other people telling us what we can do."

As part of the bylaws the club instituted when the franchise started was a stipulation that every four years the performance of the general manager would be put to a vote of season ticket holders and members of the Sounders fan alliance. All season ticket holders, or those who pay $125 per year to be part of the fan alliance, get to have a say in the direction of the organization, which means voting to keep Hanauer or kick him out of office.

Quoted

"I'm not telling you."

Seattle Sounders majority owner Joe Roth laughed when asked how he'll vote on keeping or getting rid of the team's general manager, Adrian Hanauer.

Seattle Sounders general manager Adrian Hanauer, left, and Sounders owner and actor Drew Carey celebrate after the Sounders won the U.S. Open Cup, Oct. 4, 2011, in Seattle. TED S. WARREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

For some franchises in other corners of the world, this is common practice. In North America, it's unheard of.

Consider it a bit of democracy in the sporting world.

"I've gotten calls from other owners of other teams in other sports who tell me I'm out of my mind," Sounders majority owner Joe Roth said. "Which tells me it's probably a pretty good idea, actually."

There are no stump speeches for Hanauer to make, or political ads. The product he's put on the field, coupled with incredible fan support not seen in a North American soccer market since the early days of the NASL, can be seen as a strong enough argument for giving Hanauer another four years running the organization. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horoscopes

Aries
March 21 - April 20
At some stage today, you will have to admit that you got it wrong about someone to whom you took a disliking. It seems they are not so bad after all. Who knows, given time you may even become friends.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Someone in a position of power will make things happen for you, and you should be suitably grateful. Your path to the top will be a lot smoother if you become friends with people who can open doors for you.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
If you are on the move today, you will enjoy your journey more if you travel with like-minded people. Be adventurous but be friendly too. You won't have to try too hard to make a good impression.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
If you need to get back on good terms with someone you have fallen out with, now is the time to work things out. Don't let your pride stop you from making the first move. Soon you will be best buddies again.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
If you are looking for a new love, you may find it over the next 24 hours. However, as romance planet Venus opposes changes planet, Uranus, it may not be long-lasting, so don't take it too seriously.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Strive to stay on good terms with people you have to work with on a day-to-day basis. The last thing you want is to fall out with someone whose presence you cannot avoid. Be nice. It's not so difficult.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You need to talk over your differences with a loved one who has been difficult to get along with of late. Most likely the cause of their annoyance is petty and easily resolved. Approach them about it today.

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Because you don't like to let strangers see your vulnerable side, you can at times seem a bit hard and emotionally distant. What happens today will show your caring, sharing side. Some may be surprised it exists!

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
No matter how much you know or think you know, there is always something new to learn and what you discover today could change your life in so many ways. Never stop loving, laughing and learning.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
There is no point worrying too much about your cash flow but on the other hand you cannot afford to ignore it completely. Changes (and savings) need to be made but they don't have to be excessive.

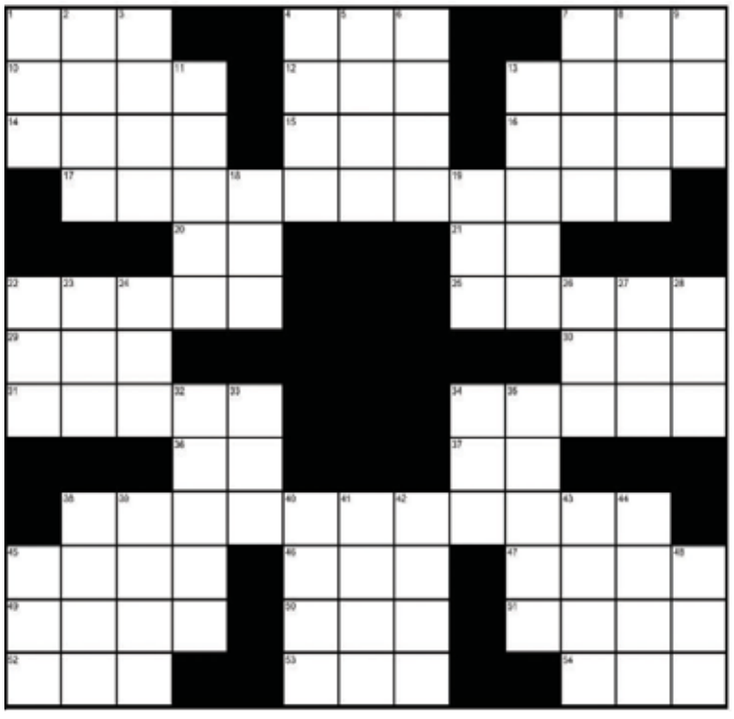
Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
No matter how ambitious you may be, you know it is never right to take advantage of other people to get to the top. Someone you work with needs to be reminded of that fact today — maybe quite sharply.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Forget about what might have been. Think only about what will be. There is no point feeling regret or remorse. It won't change a thing. Today is the first day of the rest of your life. Use it and enjoy it.

SALLY BROMPTON

Canadian Crossword

BY BETTY MARTIN



Across
1. Pigs abode
4. Response to a ques.
7. Resort
10. Blouse or skirt line
12. — Paulo, Brazil
13. Nova
14. Allowance
15. Feel poorly
16. Army vehicle
17. Winter happenings (2 words)
20. "Shall — Dance"
21. Weatherman Roker
22. Rent
25. Actor/Director Woody —
29. Actress Dolenz
30. Food for Mister Ed
31. A great lake
34. Due —
36. South Carolina neighbour (abbr.)
37. Et —, Brute
38. Varieties
45. Healing lotion
46. Mineral
47. Gab
49. Ernie's buddy
50. Pub
51. Merit
52. File extension
53. Ogle
54. Embroider

Down
1. Supersonic jet
2. Afternoon socials
3. Kitten plaything
4. Quickly
5. Hammer partner
6. By oneself
7. Ollie's partner
8. Agony
9. Noah's vessel
11. Cat's cries
13. Yet
18. Tiny
19. Babies cry
22. — de dah
23. Australian bird
24. The Fresh Prince of Bel —
26. Ed Asner role on The Mary Tyler Moore Show
27. Consume
28. Ultimate degree
32. Beginning
33. Non-commissioned Officer (abbr.)
34. Sault — Marie
35. An — of prevention....
38. Jeopardy host
39. Achy
40. Judge's garment
41. Waiter's burden
42. Only
43. — 70's Show
44. Gilbert of The Talk
45. President Lincoln, to some
48. Dynamite

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

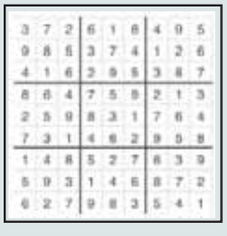
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

	1			3		2		
				4			6	3
				9	6	8		7
7	6				9		8	
				2				
	8		4				3	5
2		4	1	8				
6	3			5				
		1		7			9	

Yesterday's Sudoku



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More Millionaires Possible in Canada

More Millionaires in Canada possible with this Friday's LOTTO MAX draw. That's an estimated jackpot of $50 million, plus a possible 50 winners of $1 million each. "That's a lot of chances," said lottery hopeful, Simon Tuplin, "I will definitely be playing." What has Simon and other wannabe millionaires so excited is not only the whopping $50 million dollar jackpot, but the estimated 50 chances at a $1 million prize.

Indeed, it has been some time since LOTTO MAX has had such an offering. And an informal poll on the streets of the nation shows Canadians are loving their chances. "Even if I don't win the big one, I still have 50 chances at a million!" says Julia Auriemma.

To talk about the rarity of this prizing, one need only find a good actuarial scientist. Unfortunately, all the actuarial scientists we know were all out buying LOTTO MAX tickets. I guess we got our answer. Many of the potential millionaires we suggested they would be happy just winning $1 million dollars.

But when pressed, none said they would to turn down the extra millions. These findings will be conclusive however, as we only have to turn on the television in the newsroom. To find out more about this massive draw, stay tuned to this paper. As always, we will be bringing you the latest news from across this great country.

Lotto MAX

THIS FRIDAY'S TOTAL JACKPOT PRIZES

$100 MILLION EST

$50 MILLION EST.

+

MAXMILLIONS™
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Know your limit, play within it.

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